

HISTORICAL SKETCH
— OF THE —
NORTH LIBERTY BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

1844 - 1918

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Central BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

in memoriam

WALTER OLIVER LEWIS

presented by

FRANK DAVID LEWIS and
ROBERT EDWARD LEWIS

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS





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G. A. PUCKETT,
District Missionary
North Liberty Baptist Association

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—OF THE—
NORTH LIBERTY BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

1844-1918

—BY—

REV. G. A. PUCKETT, District Missionary

**“Other men have labored and ye have entered into
their labor.”**

PRICE FIFTY CENTS

PREFACE

Many changes are taking place in our Association. Church records are lost or destroyed year after year, and the passing away of those who have given the Association direction, has made it very desirable that a history be written. This Historical Sketch is not offered as being complete but as a step toward a larger history for some time in the future. The history of the churches should be preserved and the Associational meetings with their happenings of years gone by should also be recorded for future reference and information.

The sources of information have been a file of the Annual Minutes of the Association, (there are only two sets of these in existence and they are not complete) gathered and preserved by C. F. D. Arnold and now owned by Mr. Arnold and the Missouri Historical Society; consultation with Church Clerks and early pastors who are still living in our Association.

Great care has been taken to secure accuracy, but in the dates and statistics it was not always possible to write with certainty; loss of Church Records and Sunday School Reports and the missing copies of the Annual Minutes have hindered, while other things entering in have somewhat marred the work.

It has not been possible to get a complete list of Pastors, Deacons and Sunday School Superintendents who have served in the Association. The Biographical Sketches which should appear in a complete history cannot be given in this Sketch as it would be impossible to mention all who have labored faithfully and well during the years. The three pages prepared by A. N. Bird, G. W. Everett and D. G. Saunders, (the three oldest workers in our Associational territory) will be of interest to all who read these pages. Another page of interest is that by C. F. D. Arnold, Clerk of the Association for thirty-two years.

May the efforts put forth by the writer in giving you this Historical Sketch bring a blessing in some small degree to you and North Liberty Association.

G. A. PUCKETT.

Early History

Early Survey of the Work.

The Baptists were among those who came from Europe to the western world and helped to build the counties which now comprise our Association. As early as 1823 the Primitive Baptists organized an association at Fishing River church, Clay County, which was called Fishing River Association. All through these years it has existed and done a work along side the other Associations.

For more than three-fourths of a century there have been two divisions of Baptists—Regular or Primitive Baptists and United or Missionary Baptists. The Missionary Baptists organized North Liberty Association, the second Association in Northwest Missouri, April 26th, 1844. Five churches, with a membership of 234, made up the Association.

The early churches of this organization had many difficulties and hard struggles to overcome. Each church had to supply the needs of a large territory while many of the fields were destitute of church services and the Gospel message.

Rev. Finis Clark, a Baptist, was the first preacher in the country during the early twenties. He held the first services at private homes in the settlement along Rush Creek of Clay county, near Liberty.

In 1849, William Jewell College was located at Liberty, in the territory of North Liberty Association, and in the Minutes of that year a resolution was adopted that the Association would heartily co-operate with this institution.

About 1850, the body appointed a Mission Board to

look after the destitute fields and to employ missionaries for district work. This was an advanced step as there was much need for leadership among the churches during all the years.

From 1904 to 1906 the churches of Caldwell and Ray counties were given letters of dismission to form the Caldwell-Ray Association.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION.

From Minutes of 1902.

On Friday, April 26th, 1844, a convention of Baptists assembled at New Hope church, Clay county, Mo., for the purpose of organizing a Baptist Association. Five churches, to wit: Liberty, Little Flock (now Lebanon), New Hope, Pleasant Ridge and Richmond, were the constituent members.

A committee consisting of A. P. Williams, W. D. Hubbell, Robert James, Franklin Graves and Jabez Shotwell, drafted a Constitution and By-Laws for the organization which were reported and adopted on the following day, and the body was named "North Liberty Association of United Baptists." Thus was born this splendid organization on Saturday, April 27th, 1844.

With the exception of 1864, the Association has held annual sessions, and it has largely co-operated with all departments of mission work. In 1894, the body held its semi-centennial session at Richmond and so far as is known Eld. Franklin Graves, of Kearney, was the only one living who had assisted in the organization fifty years before. He held the office of Assistant Moderator at the time of his death in 1898.

The first officers were A. P. Williams, Moderator; Jabez Shotwell, Clerk; Elijah Stout, Treasurer. The first annual meeting was held with Little Flock (Lebanon) church in 1845.

The Association began with five churches and 234 members.

SOME HISTORICAL DATA.

A Page From the Minutes of 1917.

This is the 50th session since our Moderator, Rev. D. G. Saunders, began attending North Liberty Association at Lebanon church, and during that time he has missed only one session, that at Pleasant Ridge in 1907. He was pastor 45 years ago at Osborn, where the Association met this year, and led the church in building the church house in which we met. By request of the Association he preached the introductory sermon this year on August 22, and the day was the 55th anniversary of his baptism in 1862. This was the 10th consecutive session over which he has presided as Moderator.

C. F. D. Arnold, the Secretary, attended his first session of the Association 46 years ago at Mt. Vernon church in 1871, and he has missed only 6 annual sessions since. He has been secretary of 32 sessions without a break.

The oldest brethren who have been active in the work of the Body more than 50 years are Rev. A. N. Bird, of Liberty, now in his 80th year, and Rev. G. W. Everett, of Camden Point, now in his 79th year.

RELIGIOUS DESTITUTION.

The religious destitution within the bounds of the North Liberty Association was very great. The people were not rich and during the early years of the work many hard struggles were overcome and many problems solved.

There were very few meeting houses over the territory and for a number of years none of the churches had full time preaching; only one or two could afford half time services.

From the Associational reports and committees on "religious destitution" the following statements are taken which will show the conditions prevailing: "Within the bounds of our Association there are many places that

need to be supplied with a preached gospel. Among the most important we would name that region of country, between Platte City and Liberty, extending to the Missouri River, the country lying between Smithville and Plattsburg, and the eastern part of Clinton county." We mention especially, Cameron, where there are a few Baptists; also Weston church where interest might be advanced, and some destitution on Smith Fork. "While the most of those reporting, report coldness and lukewarmness." "Your Committee is profoundly impressed with the alarming desituteion within the bounds of the Association. There are almos. whole counties destitute of the preached Word." These statements from the reports only give an idea of the many needs. The churches would give good and encouraging reports one year and the next year probably would report the opposite but from year to year great good was done and many of the destitute fields reclaimed.

The early pastors worked under many difficulties and endured the hardships of long rides and poor salaries. One year the Mission Board was not able to pay but \$20.00 per month for a missionary and could not find a man to take the work. Another year the body lamented the fact that the churches of the entire state had contributed but \$1,500 to foreign Missions. One pastor accepted a church at \$50.00 a year for fourth time and did good work.

The personal sacrifice of our early pastors is written on every page of Baptist history. Very few of these noble men were able to give their full time to the ministry, while others left the work of farms, made long drives and preached several sermons between Saturday night and Monday morning, in order that the people might hear the Gospel message.

The hardships which these men endured were not felt without reward. At Covenant meetings and Sabbath services there were many souls led to the Cross, wanderers reclaimed, churches organized and the Christian people were strengthened to fight ever onward.

FIFTY YEARS IN NORTH LIBERTY ASSOCIATION.

(By D. G. Saunders.)

Then and Now:—How the times and methods have changed in a half century. The writer attended for the first time the sessions of North Liberty Association at the old Lebanon church six miles south of where Stewartsville is now located. It was in 1854, my father was a messenger then and entertained many of the members and visitors in his country home. It was a great meeting to me. Dr. E. S. Dulin, the great preacher and educator, preached the introductory sermon from Acts 28:32. I do not believe that I have ever seen a sermon stir people like that one. Then we had preaching twice each day and at night, now we have very little preaching. Then we met on Friday and held services over Sunday, Sunday being the great day of the feast; now we meet on Wednesday and hurry the business through in two days.

I have had the honor of presiding over the body longer than anyone else in consecutive years. J. B. Shotwell, presided one year longer than I, but not consecutively. Besides myself only one man is living who has presided over the Association—Dr. T. P. Stafford—and besides our present efficient secretary only one— is living who kept the records, that is Rev. Asa N. Bird.

In this limited space I can tell but little of what I have known of the work. I have seen it grow from a small body to a large organization of Baptists. I have witnessed many of its struggles and triumphs. During these fifty years, like the mother hive, it has swarmed several times, and other Associations have been formed from churches largely of this body. Especially is this true of Caldwell-Ray and St. Joseph Associations, but the greatest blow we ever had was at Kearney in the session of 1906, when the Liberty church left us and went to Blue River Association. It was like the mother forsaking her children and leaving them helpless. The Association has never recovered from that blow.

We have had many able and efficient men as our Missionaries, the majority of them have finished their

work on earth and rest from their labors here but their works follow them. We certainly appreciate the earnest efforts now being put forth to push this great work to a complete success by our present able Missionary, Rev. G. A. Puckett. May God abundantly bless his labors.

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

The Association appointed a Mission Board about 1850 to look after the destitute fields within the bounds of the North Liberty territory and to employ men as District Missionaries to work in these fields. This was an action greatly needed as the field was large and the harvest truly great.

It was almost impossible for one man to meet the needs of the territory which for some years was comprised of five counties and the churches largely scattered. For several years the Board employed from one to four men for part of their time to look after this work. The pastors were also used in many instances for the missionary work and were paid for the days labored.

From year to year the Board has made reports to The Association and recommendations for future work. Great and lasting good has come from this source and the work done by the field workers will live in the history of our Association.

For a number of years men have been employed to spend the whole of their time as Associational Missionaries, the churches contributing to their support, while the resident pastors have helped by holding meetings with the churches.

The following list of names, although probably incomplete because of missing records, will give an idea of those who have labored in the years gone by: J. Leake, W. C. Barrett, J. D. Black, I. T. Williams, T. N. O'Bryant, Elder Coffy, T. W. Barrett, John Harmon, B. Whitely,

C. D. Rodger, J. B. Christie, F. M. Wadley, T. L. Lewis, W. T. Flennor, C. H. Scott, Peter Brown, S. H. Carter, G. A. Crouch, R. Livingston, H. B. Turner, P. H. Evans, A. Hunt, H. H. Beeson, J. Clay, J. S. Smith, J. D. Wilson, R. James, G. W. Smith, J. M. P. Martin, J. E. Petty, A. F. Jones, H. C. Barton, C. F. D. Arnold, L. E. Martin, A. F. Pearson, M. L. Bibb, W. S. Bayne, G. L. Black, T. F. Kelly, W. A. Pipkin, J. A. Cooper, G. A. Puckett.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Sunday School organization was known in North Liberty territory before the Association was organized in 1844. The organization of the New Hope church, where the Association was born, was a result of the Sunday school work. The only living charter member of the Smith's Fork church, Mrs. Palina Hughes, (widow of Rev. James E. Hughes), gives the following information: "There was a Sunday school, regularly held during the summer months, four or five or perhaps six years, before the erection of the church building. It was organized about 1855 or 1856."

From the Minutes of 1856—"Resolved, That we (committee), suggest to the churches composing this Association the propriety of establishing and maintaining a Sunday school in the bounds of each church." The committee in the report of 1860 recommended to the body that Sunday schools be established and that the missionaries make it a part of their labor to help in the organizations.

Almost every church in the Association has had the Sunday school organization from the beginning. Many of the churches were not able to have preaching services but once a month but the school has met in its weekly sessions and has taught the Gospel message. They have become instruments of strong Christian influence and have done a great service in developing and cultivating active and efficient workers in our churches.

The records of our schools, like the old church records, have not been preserved as they should have been and it will be difficult to give the names of all Superintendents as was first planned.

The first Sunday school organized in the State was conducted by Mrs. William Murphy, wife of a Baptist preacher, during the year 1807, in St. Francois county.

B. Y. P. U. SOCIETIES.

The young people of our Association began to organize societies about 1890. The Associational B. Y. P. U. Convention was organized about four years ago.

The work of the young people has been a constructive work and has meant much to many of our churches. The two following mottoes have been adopted by the Unions: "All Baptist Young People Utilized" and "We Study That We May Serve." The B. Y. P. U. Aim is "Training in Church Membership."

The report in 1917 from our Unions shows that there were sixteen societies and better methods of work being adopted. The reports from year to year show good work and much progress being made in the development of our young people.

THE PRAYER MEETING.

The Prayer Meeting, like the Sunday school, has always held an important place in Baptist affairs. Although the reports on this phase of our work are very meager we know of the many blessings which have come from this mid-week service.

Week after week men and women of God have met at their places of worship and have delighted in the prayer meeting, the reading of His Word, singing His praises and honoring His name. Great good has come to our churches from these services and it is with regret that we must report too few of these services being held in our territory in this year of 1918.

WOMAN'S WORK.

One of the strongest auxiliaries in the development and progress of our churches has been the organization and labors of the Woman's Societies of our Association. The first report to be given of this work was that of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Second Baptist Church of Liberty, August 21, 1877.

The Missionary and Aid Societies have done a great work and have gathered in vast sums of money for Missions, building enterprises, paying off church debts and making needed improvements. During the noon hour of the Associational meeting at Osborn in 1917, an Associational Union was organized with nineteen societies.

The missionary work of these organizations has been a wonderful help to the churches in development of the missionary spirit. By talking missions and reading literature and letters from missionaries, they have gained and spread much valuable information of various fields and their needs among the members of the churches. Some of the societies are now (1918) supporting workers on the foreign fields and there is a bright outlook for the future work among our societies.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

The churches of our territory have been interested in Christian Education and have done many things toward the advancement of our schools. Since 1849 we have had within our boundaries the great and beloved William Jewell College which has meant so much toward the future work of our young men.

The following is taken from the Associational Minutes of 1849—"Resolved, That we feel highly gratified that the Baptist College of Missouri, has been located at Liberty, Mo., and that we will heartily co-operate with the originators by our councils and means." This resolve has not been forgotten by our churches as the years

rolled by.

The ministerial students have found work in our Association during their college course and many of them have preached their first sermon in our churches. One church claims the distinction of having 69 students as pastors and helpers during her history.

'The Liberty Ladies' College which was located at Liberty, was organized in 1890 by S. F. Menefee. It stood as an interdenominational school but was owned and controlled by Baptist men with the exception of a few years. The college building burned February 23, 1913.

'There is a vast difference in the present time and the beginning of our activities. In the early day there was lack of opportunity and financial means to secure an education. It is not the same now, for any young man desiring an education in preparing for his life work may secure it with reasonable effort and determination.

MINISTERS' AND DEACONS' CONFERENCE.

'The Ministers' and Deacons' Conference convened in the Baptist Church at Bee Creek, Platte county, on the 16th of August, 1867, and after prayer by G. W. Smith, organized by electing W. C. Barrett Chairman, and T. Montgomery Secretary.

The following were enrolled as members:

Ministers: W. C. Barrett, J. Clay, W. Willis, T. W. Barrett, A. N. Bird, T. Montgomery, I. T. Williams, D. Anderson, N. Roberts, G. W. Smith, C. G. Rogers, J. W. Luke, J. Harman, J. S. Liggett, B. F. Kenny, J. Yates, J. B. Christie, W. Rice, Dr. W. H. Thomas.

Deacons: F. Herndon, D. D. Newman, J. W. Moody, B. P. Shouse, W. D. Korah, S. Matthews, R. Belius, O. P. Moss, W. L. Watkins, A. Maret.

The annual sermon was preached by Elder T. W. Barrett, and criticised by the Conference.

Just how long this Conference existed and the work accomplished could not be found in the early reports.

THE WORK OF EARLY DAYS.

(By G. W. Everett.)

It is very difficult for the people of today to put themselves in the place of the early settlers of North Liberty Association. To believe that they were as happy as we are today with all the conveniences and appliances which we have to carry on our work, is a very difficult thing to do. We must remember that it would have been as great a task to appreciate these conditions as it was for David to use Saul's armor.

Imagine yourself riding on horseback twenty miles and then preach to a congregation called up after you reached a brother's home—the room fourteen feet square with a bedstead in one corner and a couple of tallow candles set in a block of wood—and you have a picture of our early work. Was the work pleasant? Yes, just as much as it is today. The fellowship was just as sweet; there was perhaps less complaining than we hear today. They preached every day but seldom in a church building. The sermon was doctrinal and closed with an appeal that was often effectual in bringing some one to the Savior. Then followed a fellowship handshaking where Christian love was manifested in a marked degree. The song service had every element required in a regular scriptural meeting. They had every spiritual equipment for evangelistic work.

You ask, "Were they successful?" Compare the ingathering annually with the present in proportion to the population and I am sure the pioneers need not be ashamed.

I would not ask to return to those early day conditions. We could not, if we would, but let us not hold up the disadvantage as without joy and successful service. They laid the foundation—we are building thereon—we are fellow-workers with them. Let us give them what they deserve and be sure that we build upon the foundation which they laid—gold, silver and precious stones such as will stand the test of fire.

THE PIONEER WORKERS.

(By C. F. D. Arnold.)

Unfortunately, very little early history of the workers in North Liberty Association has been preserved. Outside of a few ministers and laymen who attended the annual meetings of the Body as messengers, very little is known of the hardy pioneers who made the early history of the work, and laid the foundation of our present spiritual estate.

The pioneer period extends from 1825 to 1850, in the southern part of the territory, while in Clinton and Caldwell counties, pioneering was done in the early sixties.

A. P. Williams, Robert James, Franklin Graves, Solomon Kimsey, Reuben Searcy, B. F. Kenney, W. C. Barrett, R. C. Hill, J. W. Sacry and others preached the gospel fervently and successfully under trying circumstances. They worked on farms during part of the week, then in heat and cold, in sunshine and rain, rode horseback many miles to their religious work on Sunday.

Modest laymen like W. D. Hubbell, first Clerk of the Body, Elijah Stout, Jabez Shotwell, George White, John Stone, O. P. Moss, Waltus Watkins, J. J. Garrett, bore the heavy expense of the first church buildings.

The limits of this page prevent much personal mention, but the fact should be recorded that Elder Franklin Graves, who was at the organization of the Association in 1844, was living at the semi-centennial meeting in 1894.

Elder W. C. Barrett, who established many of the churches in Clinton county, came from Virginia in 1856, and was elected the first Missionary in the Association in 1857. One man, M. D. Gow, now living at Kearney, Mo., was present at the organization, and has vivid memories of the men and events of April 26th, 74 years ago.

These noble men and women have passed into the unseen glory. Blessed is their rest while their victorious works follow them. We of today have entered into the splendid heritage their devoted hands provided, and by all the sacred memories of their consecrated efforts, we are exhorted to renewed diligence.

Consecutive History of the Association.

ORGANIZATION

On Friday, April 26th, 1844, a convention of Baptists assembled at New Hope church, Clay county, Mo., for the purpose of organizing a Baptist Association. Five churches, to wit: Liberty, Little Flock (now Lebanon), New Hope, Pleasant Ridge and Richmond, were the constituent members.

A committee consisting of A. P. Williams, W. D. Hubbell, Robert James, Franklin Graves and Jabez Shotwell, drafted a Constitution and By-Laws for the organization which were reported and adopted on the following day, and the body was named "North Liberty Association of United Baptists." Thus was born this splendid organization on Saturday, April 27th, 1844.

Copies of the first few Minutes are missing as well as several other copies in the file. Beginning with this 48th session, a few of the historical events are recorded for future reference.

1848—FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The fifth Annual meeting was with the First Baptist church at Richmond, on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th days of September, 1848. Elder D. G. Brooks preached the introductory sermon from I Pet. 3:12. Jabez Shotwell was elected Moderator and A. P. Williams Clerk. The following churches were received into the Association at this meeting: Mt. Zion, Knoxville and Providence.

Brethren Collier and Sacry were appointed as a committee to nominate a suitable person for the missionary work among the churches. This committee reported that they had conferred with Bro. J. S. Smith and gained his consent to serve in that capacity. The report was re-

ceived and adopted.

A. P. Williams was asked to write a Circular Letter on Church Communion.

The following were appointed as messengers to the General Association of Missouri: J. D. Wilson, W. A. Guthrie, E. Evans, D. G. Brooks, J. H. Miller and A. P. Williams.

1849—SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Sixth Annual Session of the Association was held with the New Hope church, Clay County, on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd days of September, 1849. The Introductory sermon was preached by Elder Robert James—text Jno. 14:15. There was an increase of 143 members in the Association during the year. Brother Jabez Shotwell was again elected Moderator and Elijah Stout Clerk. The County Line church of Platte county and the Pisgah church of Ray County were received into the Association. The treasurer reported \$7.00 in the treasury and \$32.00 contributed by the churches during the year.

The following resolution, offered by Eld J. S. Smith, was adopted. Resolved, That we consider the propriety of appointing a Missionary to ride and preach in the bounds of the North Liberty Association, and devise means for his support.

After the adoption of the above resolution, the sum of \$63.50 was subscribed by members of the Association and others present. Elder J. D. Wilson and R. James, were appointed Missionaries under the above resolution.

The following was adopted: Resolved, That we feel highly gratified that the Baptist College of Missouri, has been located at Liberty, Mo., and that we will heartily co-operate with the originators by our councils and means.

1850—SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

Copy of the Minutes for this year could not be found.

1851—EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Eighth Annual Session of North Liberty Asso-

ciation was held with the Mount Zion Church, Platte county, on September 20th, 21st and 22nd, 1851. The Introductory sermon was preached by Eld J. S. Smith, Isa. 52:1. The messengers then present went into the election of officers. J. Shotwell was chosen Moderator and A. P. Williams Clerk. Friendship and Platte City churches were received into the Association.

1852—NINTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Ninth Annual Session met with the Knoxville church, Ray county on the 3rd Saturday in September 1852.

1853—TENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

Copy of the Minutes for this year could not be found.

1854—ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Eleventh Annual Session was held with the Lebanon Church on September 23rd, 24th and 25th, 1854. In the absence of Rev. W. H. Thomas, who was appointed to preach the Introductory sermon, the Rev. E. S. Dulin, alternate, preached from Acts, 28:22. J. Shotwell was elected Moderator and E. Stout as Clerk of this meeting. A letter from the Weston church, Platte county, requesting admission into the Association was read and the request granted.

After the reading of letters from other Associations and the other regular business, the meeting adjourned to meet with the Pisgah Church Ray county, on the 3rd Saturday in September, 1855.

1855—TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Twelfth Annual Session of the Association met with the Pisgah church, Ray county, on the third Saturday in September, 1855.

1856—THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

Copy of the Minutes for this year could not be found.

1857—FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Fourteenth Annual Session met with the Platte City church in September, 1857.

The Association again elected J. Shotwell Moderator and E. Stout Clerk.

The following churches were received into the Association: Wakanda, Ray county; Richfield, Clay county; Mount Vernon, Clay county; Crooked River, Clinton county; Mount Olive, Clay county; Shoal Creek, Clinton county.

The following brethren preached sermons during this session: Elder R. N. Coffey, Elder J. E. Hughes, Elder J. B. Link, Elder I. T. Williams, Elder W. C. Barrett, Elder F. German, Elder B. F. Kenney.

The destitution of the churches was discussed and resolutions endorsing missionary enterprises were adopted. Adjourned to meet with the Liberty church, Clay county.

1858—FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Fifteenth Annual Session met with the Liberty church on September 4th, 1858, with J. Shotwell Moderator and J. Leake Clerk.

Elder B. F. Kenney preached the Introductory sermon from the text 1 Cor. 9:14.

At this session a committee was appointed to draft a plan for missionary operations. A plan was presented, read and adopted. The committee suggested that a member from each church be elected to form a board of managers to care for the destitute fields with the help of a paid missionary.

The first Board of Managers for Missions in North Liberty Association were as follows: Richmond, A. K. Keyburn; Liberty, O. F. Moss; New Hope, A. Marat; Lebanon, J. S. Morris; Pleasant Ridge, Joseph Nowers; Pleasant Grove, J. M. Browning; Knoxville, Danial Lebo;

Mt. Zion, Dr. Sayles; Providence, Brawlay; Parkville, Lewis Ford; Pisgah, C. Wyman; Friendship, E. C. Sacry; Platte City, P. S. Coots; Union, H. J. Write; Pleasant Valley, J. B. Clarke; Weston, John Wright; Plattsburg, P. G. Smith; Hopewell, W. Mullen; Hainesville, J. L. Jones; Richfield, J. W. Collins; Mt. Vernon, S. H. Anderson; Wakanda, D. H. Hudson, Mt. Olive, J. A. S. Major; Shoal Creek, R. C. Linsey; Crooked River, Smith Riley.

On motion it was agreed that the time of the meeting of North Liberty Association be changed from the 1st Saturday in September to the Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in August.

1859—SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Sixteenth Annual Session met with the Friendship church, Ray county, on Saturday, August 20th, 1859.

Elder W. H. Thomas preached the introductory sermon and Brethren Shotwell and Stout were again elected to the offices of Moderator and Clerk.

Two churches were received into the Association at this meeting; Mirable, Caldwell county and Smithville, Clay county.

The report shows that four and one-half months of missionary labor was charged to the Mission Board by four men who worked part of the time. Eighty-four sermons preached, five converts baptised and two others received for baptism, (at a cost of \$225) were reported.

The following resolution was adopted; Resolved, That we, the members of North Liberty Association, do recognize in William Jewell College, under its present efficient and able faculty, an institution in every respect worthy of the highest admiration of Baptists, and Resolved, Further that we should rally around it, and consider it the Baptist College of Missouri. W. H. Thomas, Chairman.

1860—SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

The Seventeenth Annual Session met with the Plattsburg church on Saturday, August 18, 1860.

In the absence of Elder William Thompson, the introductory sermon was preached by the alternate Elder W. C. Barrett. Wm. H. Thomas was chosen Moderator and E. Stout Clerk.

The following churches were received into the Association: Barry, Clay county; Smith's Fork, Clinton county; Elm Grove, Platte county.

J. E. Hughes as Chairman on the committee to report on Sunday school work reported that very few Sunday schools were organized in the Associational territory.

A net gain of 216 members during the year was reported. The meeting adjourned to meet with the Pleasant Grove church, Platte county.

1861—EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Eighteenth Annual Session met with the Pleasant Grove church, August 17, 1861.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder Isaiah T. Williams, from Isaiah 27:6. Dr. W. A. Thomas, former Moderator, took the chair, and President Thompson was appointed Clerk pro tem.

Pleasant Hill church, Clay county, was received into the Association at this meeting.

1862—NINETEENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Nineteenth Annual Session met with the New Hope church, Clay county, August 1862.

1863—TWENTIETH ANNUAL SESSION.

Copy of the Minutes for this year could not be found.

1864—TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION.

Copy of the Minutes for this year could not be found.

1865—There was no meeting of the Association in 1865, because of conditions at the close of the war.

1866—TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION.

This session was held at Hainesville, Clinton county.

1867—TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION.

The Twenty-third Annual Session met with the Bee Creek church, Platte county, August 17th to 19th, 1867.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder Asa N. Bird, from Eccl. 9:10. Elder W. C. Barrett was elected Moderator and Elder Asa N. Bird Clerk.

The following churches were received: Bethlehem, Touse, New Harmony and Dekalb, Buchanan county; Pleasant View, Ray county; Cameron, Clinton county; Bethel, Andrew county; Mirable, Caldwell county; and Stewartsville, Dekalb county.

The following report was made: In North Liberty Association thirty-four churches are represented, with 2,400 members. Six Sabbath schools with five hundred scholars were also reported.

1868—TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Session met with the Lebanon church, Clinton county, commencing August 1st, 1868.

W. C. Barrett was again elected Moderator and Asa N. Bird Clerk. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder B. F. Kenny, text Matt. 28:19-20.

Two Periodicals were recommended to the people,—Central Baptist of St. Louis and Kind Words, a Sunday school paper.

The Minutes of this meeting contain a sermon on "The Theology of Money" by Rev. J. Dixon, D. D.

1869—TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Twenty-fifth Annual Session met with the New

Salem church, Davis county, August 20th to 22nd, 1869.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator of the preceding year, Rev. W. C. Barrett; Rev. A. N. Bird acting as clerk. After a few remarks by the Moderator, the Association adjourned to the grove to hear the introductory sermon, preached by Rev. James H. Hughes from John 17:1. At the afternoon session Rev. W. H. Thomas was elected Moderator and Professor A. F. Fleet, Clerk.

Bro. A. N. Bird reported that he could not find the old record book of the Association. The clerk was authorized to purchase a new book for the Minutes.

The net gain of members during the year was 322.

1870—TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Twenty-sixth Annual Session met with the Crooked River church, August 24, 25 and 26, 1870.

In the absence of the Moderator, the Association was called to order by the Clerk, and the exercises opened with prayer by Rev. W. Pope Yeaman, St. Louis. The Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. A. Machett.

The following churches were received: Mt. Carmel, Clay county; New Hebron, Clinton county; Cottage Grove, Caldwell county; First Baptist Church, Lathrop; Hopewell, Caldwell county.

A committee reported twelve churches without pastors, some of which are very important points—as St. Joseph, Weston and Richmond. There was also important territory needing missionary work.

Eleven churches (Bethel, Crab Orchard, Freedom, Friendship, Gentryville, Liberty, New Salem, Pleasant Ridge, Stewartsville, White Oak and Zoar), with 614 members have withdrawn from North Liberty and gone into the Mount Moriah Association.

1871—TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Session met with the

Mount Vernon church August 23rd, 24th and 25th, 1871.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Dr. Wm. H. Thomas. Prayer by Bro. J. W. Brown. The introductory sermon was preached by Bro. J. M. C. Breaker, from Matt. 13:33.

During the year there were 681 additions by baptism and otherwise. Dismissed by letter and otherwise, 256; making a total increase of 425. There were three churches with full time preaching, two with half time and twenty-six with fourth time. Only eleven churches reported prayer meetings. Five churches were organized during the year.

1872—TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Twenty-eighth Annual session met with the Mount Carmel church, Clinton county, August 21st to the 23rd, 1872. Joseph Flood, Moderator, Professor A. F. Fleet, Clerk.

Rev. J. E. Hughes preached the introductory sermon in the absence of Rev. T. Kambaut, D. D. The Session was called to order and opened with prayer by Bro. J. Clay. On motion Bro. D. G. Saunders was appointed assistant Secretary. On motion, the rules were suspended, and Bro. J. Flood was elected Moderator and A. F. Fleet Clerk by acclamation, and Bro. W. F. Lewright, Treasurer.

The following churches were received: Stewartsville, Dekalb county; Bethel, Ray county; Knoxville, Ray county; Osborn, Dekalb county.

General prosperity in most of the churches was reported. There were 523 additions added to the churches during the year. Only five churches report no pastors. The following asked for letters of dismission to unite with St. Joseph Association; Taos, Walnut Grove, and New Harmony: Rev. F. M. Wadley, T. L. Lewis, W. T. Fleenor, C. H. Scott, Peter Brown and Rev. R. Livingston worked as Missionaries during the year.

The total membership of the churches this year was 3,510.

1873—TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Session met with the Richmond church in August, 1873.

Elder W. R. Rothwell preached the introductory sermon. Elder J. Clay was elected Moderator and V. P. Kelley Clerk with Elder D. G. Saunders Assistant Clerk and W. P. Lewright, Treasurer.

1874—THIRTIETH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Thirtieth Annual Session met with the Mount Zion (Platte County) church, August 19th, 1874.

Elder H. M. Richardson preached the introductory sermon. The same officers were re-elected for another year. The Enon church, Ray county, was received into the Association.

At the first meeting of the Executive Board during the year the following men were appointed Missionaries at \$2.00 per day for actual service: Brethren J. Harmon, G. A. Crouch and S. H. Carter. These appointments had to be cancelled later in the year because of insufficient funds.

1875—THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION.

The Thirty-first Annual Session met with the Smith's Fork church, August 18, 19 and 20, 1875.

After prayer, by Elder F. J. Leavitt, the sermon introductory to the business of the Association was delivered by Elder A. J. Emerson, of William Jewell College, from I Tim. 3:15.

All the officers were re-elected for the ensuing year.

Dr. W. Pope Yeaman addressed the body on the Report on Education especially on the Centennial Endowment of William Jewell College, after which subscriptions were taken to the amount of \$550. 00 and \$11.00 in cash.

Some of churches were reported as in a state of cold-

ness and inactivity although there was a gain of 262 members. As there were not enough funds to hire a Missionary the Board had no meeting during the year.

1876—THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION.

The Thirty-second Annual Session met with the Lick Fork church, Daviess county, on Friday, August 25th, 1876.

Elder J. Clay was elected Moderator, V. P. Kelly, Clerk and W. P. Lewright, Treasurer. The annual sermon was preached by J. W. Luke.

This meeting was acknowledged as one of the most harmonious sessions of the body.

1877—THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION.

The Thirty-Third Annual Session met with the Plattsburg church in August, 1877.

The body was called together by the Moderator Elder J. Clay, after which the sermon was delivered by W. T. Fleanor. Elder D. G. Saunders offered the morning prayer.

The officers remained the same with the exception of Treasurer; J. T. Chandler was elected to this office. W. A. Crouch was appointed to preach the Annual Sermon with W. T. Campbell as Alternate.

The Association adjourned to meet with the Cameron church, Clinton county.

1878—THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Session met with the Cameron church, August 21st, 1878.

Elder B. F. Kinney conducted the opening exercises. In the absence of W. A. Crouch and the Alternate, Elder R. S. Duncan, of the Foreign Mission Board, Southern Convention, preached the annual sermon.

A good year's work was reported by the Missionary,

1844—NORTH LIBERTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—1918

Rev. A. Hunt, and many of the churches doing progressive work. Eleven churches were without pastors. The Association decided to meet one month later each year.

1879—THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Session met with the Albany church, Ray county, September 26th, 1879.

The annual sermon was delivered by W. A. Crouch, Heb. 9:22, as text. The officers were continued with the exception of James E. Young, who was elected Treasurer.

1880—THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Thirty-sixth Annual Session convened with the New Hope church, Clay county, on Thursday, August 19th, 1880.

The annual sermon was preached by Rev. G. L. Black, from Rom. 1:14. The opening prayer in the afternoon was by W. R. Rothwell, D. D.

The Association then proceeded to the election of officers. Rev. J. Clay, who had presided so acceptably during seven years, declining re-election, Prof A. J. Emerson was chosen Moderator. Asa N. Bird was elected Clerk and Judge J. E. Young, Treasurer.

The annual sermon on Sunday school work was delivered by Rev. H. M. Richardson. Four Sunday school conventions were held during the year.

1881—THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Session convened with the Hopewell church, Caldwell county, August 25th, 1881.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. Clay, from II Cor. 5:14. The officers were re-elected for another year. On motion, Rev. D. G. Saunders was elected assistant clerk.

The committee on obituaries reported the death of Capt. O. P. Moss, which occurred June 7th, 1881. The death of Rev. Wm. H. Thomas, D. D., was also reported.

1882—THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Thirty-eighth Annual Session met with the Pleasant Grove church on Wednesday morning, August 23rd, 1882.

The annual sermon was delivered by Rev. G. W. Everett from Psalms 58:12-13. The officers were re-elected for another year.

A pleasant incident occurred in the presentation of a gavel from Rev. W. C. Barrett, who had attended the meetings of the Association for 25 years. The presentation was appropriately made by Rev. G. L. Black, and handsomely accepted by Rev. A. J. Emerson, and on motion of Rev. W. A. Crouch, the following was adopted: "That the Association accept as a memento of respect, zeal and consecration to the cause of North Liberty Association, the gavel presented by Bro. W. C. Barrett."

The committee on the condition of churches, reported a good showing made during the year and much to encourage the Association.

1883—THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Session was held with the Lathrop church in 1883.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Rev. D. G. Saunders, from Phil. 2:1. All the officers were re-elected for another year. The Association was divided into counties for the purpose of holding Sunday school conventions in each county. These conventions were held in Smith's Fork church, Clinton county; Pleasant Ridge, Platte county; Kearney, Clay county; Hopewell, Caldwell county; Lawson, Ray county. During the year five new schools were organized, New Hope, Richmond, Osborn, Cameron, Lawson.

A committee was appointed consisting of Brethren D. G. Saunders, H. H. Beeson, and M. Kenny, to prepare a memorial of the life of Rev. John Harmon, for years a member of this body, and publish it in the Central Baptist.

1884—FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Fortieth Annual Session convened with Osborn church on Thursday, August 21st, 1884, with Rev. A. J. Emerson in the chair. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. B. G. Maynard. The full corps of officers were re-elected for another year.

The Holt church was received into the Association at this meeting.

The report on obituaries shows that forty-seven members of the churches passed away during the year. Those mentioned are J. J. Garrett and Waltus L. Watkins, who were both deacons of the Mt. Vernon church. A complete obituary notice is also given of Edward Clark, aged 92 years, who died September 25th, 1883, at his home near Hampton, Platte county. This obituary was

The churches reported good work and the committee on condition of churches, reported the outlook more favorable than for years past. There was a net gain of 329 members to the churches.

1885—FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION.

The Forty-first Annual Session convened with the Providence church, August 20th, 1885.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. B. G. Tutt. The officers were re-elected to serve another year.

An amendment to Article XI of the Constitution was offered by Rev. C. F. D. Arnold, as follows, which was adopted: "Members of the Executive and Sabbath School Boards shall be ex-officio members of the Association."

1886—FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION.

The Forty-second Annual Session met with the Mt. Zion church, Edgerton, August, 1886.

Rev. F. J. Leavitt, of Plattsburg, preached the introductory sermon, theme, "The Primitive Christianity." Rev. A. N. Bird, the Clerk, being absent, C. F. D. Arnold was appointed clerk pro tem.

Little Platte church, Platte county, and Good Hope church, Clay county, applied for membership and were accepted.

1887—FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION.

The Forty-third Annual Session met with the Kearney church, August 24th, 1887. The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, A. J. Emerson, D. D. J. J. Felts preached the introductory sermon, theme, "Self Conservation."

Chandler church, Clay county, applied for membership and was received into the Association.

Fifty-five deaths were reported by the churches, the following are mentioned: Deacons, J. F. Swope, of Lebanon; R. P. Robinson, of Pleasant Ridge, R. W. Bywaters, of Pleasant Grove; W. Stephens, of New Hope; and G. W. Braden, of Hickory Grove.

On motion of S. H. Carter, the name of Good Hope church was dropped from the roll, the organization having ceased to exist.

The Moderator made some appropriate farewell remarks, and then, after singing "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," Rev. D. G. Saunders led in prayer, and the Forty-third Annual Session of North Liberty Association was closed.

1888—FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Forty-fourth Annual Session met with the Weston church, August, 1888. W. R. Rothwell was elected

Moderator.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. R. H. Jones, of Edgerton. The churches of Birmingham, Kidder, Cowgill and Polo applied for membership and were received into the Association.

Bro. W. A. Crouch, under sanction of the Board, undertook a church enterprise at Turney. Up to the time of meeting he had secured about \$1,400. The building is almost finished, and will be paid for when completed.

On motion the name of Pisgah church was dropped from the list, the organization having ceased to exist.

1889—FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Forty-fifth Annual Session convened with the Hamilton church, August 21st, 1889.

Browning church, Turney, applied for membership and was received.

Rev. W. A. Crouch delivered the introductory sermon, theme, "The God Sealed, God-Appointed Christ."

The churches reported 62 deaths during the year. The following are mentioned in the Minutes: Rev. C. L. Butts, of Cameron; Deacon Dale, of Weston; Deacon B. F. Allen, of Lisbonville.

1890—FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Forty-sixth Annual Session met with Pleasant Grove church, August 20th to 22nd, 1890.

In the absence of Dr. G. W. Rodgers, the introductory sermon was delivered by J. E. Chambliss, D. D., of Kansas City. The only change made in the officers was that of Moderator, B. G. Tutt was elected to fill this office.

The churches reported 41 deaths during the year, among them was the death of Rev. Sheldon Atterbury, of Osborn. He died in the triumphs of faith, March 7th, 1890.

1891—FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Forty-seventh Annual Session was held with the Plattsburg church in August, 1891.

Forty deaths were reported, among them were the names of Dr. W. J. Yates, Kearney; Sister Louisa B. Hawkins, Plattsburg; W. J. Miller, Elm Grove.

A quilt made by the Ladies' Misisonary Society of New Hope church for any worthy object, by motion, was donated to the Orphans' Home, St. Louis.

1892—FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Forty-eighth Annual Session met with the Mount Zion church, September 21st to 23rd, 1892.

Elder S. F. Taylor delivered the introductory sermon. The Platte Island church, Platte county, applied for admission at this meeting and the names of Gosneyville, Hainesville and Taitsville were dropped as organizations ceased to exist.

Fifty deaths were reported by the churches, the following names are mentioned in the Minutes: Deacon T. F. Walker, W. P. Garrett and D. D. Newman, Brother William Crusier and Sister Mary E. Hughes.

1893—FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Forty-ninth Annual Session met with the Kearney church, August 22, 1893. The date of meeting was made one month earlier at the last session of the Association.

Moderator B. G. Tutt, called the meeting to order. Bro. W. A. Crouch, the pastor, made an address of welcome and a suitable reply was given by Dr. S. H. Ford, St. Louis. All of the officers were re-elected.

The memorial of W. C. Barrett appears in the Minutes of this meeting; he died near Lathrop, March 4th, 1893.

Dr. J. P. Greene was appointed to represent this Association at the next meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

1894—FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Fiftieth Annual Session met with the Richmond church, August 23rd, 1884. This was also the Semi-Centennial Meeting.

By order of the body the Moderator was instructed to wire Rev. Franklin Graves, Kearney, Mo., the only known survivor of those who constituted the North Liberty Association, in 1844, asking him to be present.

The officers were re-elected to serve the body another year. G. Creekmore, pastor, made the address of welcome and reply was made by Bro. Lee Harrell, W. R. Kothwell delivered the introductory sermon.

According to a pre-arranged program the afternoon hour of the second day was given to the semi-centennial memorial exercises. Bro. G. W. Everett read the scripture and offered prayer. Bro. W. A. Crouch then delivered an address on "The Work of Fifty Years." He was followed by Dr. W. R. Kothwell who spoke on "The Workers of Fifty Years." At the evening hour the service was continued by an address on the "Sunday School Work of Fifty Years," by C. F. D. Arnold.

1895—FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

The Fifty-first Annual Session met with the Holt ordered published in the Central Baptist church in August 1895.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Rev. C. F. D. Arnold, text Joshua 4:6. Subject, "Memorial Monuments."

The Linden church asked for membership and was received.

The names of Missouri City and Rolling Ridge churches were dropped as the organizations no longer existed.

1896—FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION.

The Fifty-second Annual Session met with the Lath-

rop church and was called to order by Moderator, B. G. Tutt. The introductory sermon was delivered by T. P. Stafford.

A large number of delegates and visitors were present and nearly all the churches made good reports. At this time there were 65 churches in the Association, 60 pastors and 62 clerks.

The churches reported 53 deaths during the year.

1897—FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION.

This session was held with the Hamilton church, August, 1897. The introductory sermon was delivered by W. A. Crouch, theme, "Divinity of Jesus Christ."

Bro. Lee Harrel was chosen to represent this body at the next annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

This year the churches reported 80 deaths in the Associational territory.

Bro. J. E. Young, after continuous service for 18 years as Treasurer of this body, resigned his office on account of age and pressing duties, and the resignation was accepted.

1898—FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION.

At 10:00 a. m., the Association was called to order by the Moderator, B. G. Tutt, in the chapel of William Jewell College. Dr. J. F. Greene delivered the sermon, subject, "The Argument of Missions."

Paradise and Rolling Ridge churches, Clay county, applied for membership and were received.

During the year there were 70 deaths in the 66 churches.

No church having invited the Association for the next session it was referred to the Executive Board to find a place of meeting.

Hamilton, Excelsior Springs, Hoit, Liberty, Mt. Vernon, Providence, Cameron, Lathrop, Lawson and Rich-

mond churches report Woman's Missionary Societies. Young People's Unions exist in Hamilton, Excelsior, Liberty, Linden, Cameron, Lathrop, Lawson, Orrick and Richmond.

1899—FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION.

Pursuant to the arrangement of the Mission Board, the fifty-fifth meeting met with the Plattsburg church. Moderator T. P. Stafford called the body to order and after opening exercises Bro. G. W. Everett delivered the annual sermon.

Trimble church, Clinton county, and Enterprise church, Ray county, applied for membership and were received.

By vote the body decided to hold no evening sessions but devote the time to preaching services.

The work of Missionary, G. L. Black, was very satisfactory to the Mission Board; a good report was made.

The time for the Associational meeting was again changed to September.

1900—FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION.

This session met with Mt. Zion church, Edgerton, on September 19th, 1900.

The following telegram was sent to G. L. Black who was sick:

"Rev. G. L. Black, Maryville, Mo.

"North Liberty Association sending greetings and sympathy. Third John, verses two and three.

"C. F. D. Arnold, Secretary."

Bro. Lee Harrell delivered the introductory sermon. The churches reported 74 deaths during the year.

The Mission Board reported that they had called Bro. T. F. Kelley, of Albany, Mo., for the Missionary of the ensuing year.

During the session the following message was received:

“C. F. D. Arnold:

“Berthren and Sisters of North Liberty Association.
greetings, faith, love gratitude, patience., Psalms. 17:7.

“G. L. Black.”

1901—FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

Moderator T. P. Stafford called to order the Fifty-seventh Session with the Cameron church, September 18th, 1901.

The following officers were elected: Moderator, T. P. Stafford; Ass't. Moderator, T. M. S. Kinney; Secretary, C. F. D. Arnold; Treasurer, E. A. Sharp.

A resolution was submitted considering the dividing of the Association, but after discussion it was tabled.

The introductory sermon was preached by A. F. Pearson, theme, “The Value of a Soul.”

Lick Fork and Hebron churches were granted letters to unite with other Associations.

Sixty-eight deaths were reported by the different churches.

1902—FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION.

This session met with the Smithville church and the body was called to order by the Moderator, T. P. Stafford.

The introductory sermon was preached by F. W. Eberhardt, Eph. 3:8-11.

The Winston church was granted a letter of dismission to unit with the Daviess county Association.

At this time five churches had full time preaching, 21 had two Sundays per month, 35 one Sunday each month, 5 were without pastors. Sunday schools were reported in 56 churches besides 2 Mission schools.

1903—FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION.

This Fifty-ninth meeting met with the Platte City church and the body was called to order by the Assistant

Moderator, T. M. S. Kinney.

There were 76 deaths reported by the churches this year.

A resolution was adopted that greetings be sent to all the old brethren who were unable to attend the meeting.

The membership of the Association was 6407 at this time.

1904—SIXTIETH ANNUAL MEETING.

This session was held with the Pleasant Grove church and was called to order by the Assistant Moderator, D. G. Saunders.

Secretary C. F. D. Arnold was absent during the entire session on account of being called away to a funeral. The Assistant kept the Journal during the meeting.

The Constitution of the Sunday School Convention appears in the Minutes of this year.

Letters of dismission were granted to the following churches: Cowgill, Hamilton, Hopewell and Polo.

1905—SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION.

This session met with the Richmond church and the body was called to order by the Assistant Moderator, D. G. Saunders.

As Dr. A. J. Emerson, trustee for the body, had removed from the state, Bro. E. A. Sharp was, on motion, elected to succeed him.

The following is part of report on condition of churches. About fifteen or twenty churches will ask for letters of dismission to unite with Caldwell and Ray Association.

The churches reported 72 deaths during the year passed.

Near the close of this session sixteen churches were granted letters to unite with the Caldwell and Ray Association.

1906—SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION.

This meeting was held with the Kearney church August 22nd to 23rd, 1906.

The annual sermon was delivered by Dr. J. P. Greene; prayer by Bro. M. D. Eubank, Huchow, China.

One page of the Minutes gives the Memorial of Rev. B. G. Tutt, who served the Association as Moderator from 1890 to 1898.

The Harlem church was dropped from the list as the organization no longer existed.

Four churches in Caldwell and Ray counties were granted letters of dismission to unite with Caldwell-Ray Association and Liberty church to unite with Blue River Association.

Forty-five deaths were reported in the letters by the churches.

Only six B. Y. P. U. Societies were reported from the churches which shows a falling off of four over the previous year.

1907—SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION.

The Sixty-third Session met with the Pleasant Ridge church and was called to order by the Moderator, T. P. Stafford.

The Mission Board reported that for the first time in many years there was no debt on the work at the time of the Association.

The following was submitted to the Association and unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, Bro. D. G. Saunders, for some years Assistant Moderator, and always a faithful member of this body, is now ill at his home in Stewartsville, therefore be it

"Resolved, That this Association, through its Clerk tender to him our sympathy, praying for his speedy recovery."

Fifty deaths were reported from the territory this year.

1908—SIXTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION.

This session convened with the Little Platte church with the Assistant Moderator, Bro. D. G. Saunders, in the chair.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Bro. W. I. Cole.

On the second day news came to the Associational Body that Elder James E. Hughes had passed away and it was voted that a service in his memory be held at 2:30 to 3:00 p. m., at the hour when his funeral was conducted at the Baptist church in Osborn. Mr. Hughes was born March 3rd, 1821, and died in Osborn, Mo., August 18th, 1908. Honor to his memory.

The Association adjourned to meet with the Providence church, Clay county, in August, 1909.

1909—SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION.

This session met with Providence church with D. G. Saunders, Moderator, presiding.

The address of welcome was made by Pastor W. H. Edwards and the response was made by R. L. McKee, of Clinton county.

The Nashua church made application for membership in the Association and was received. T. D. St. John and S. F. Collins were welcomed as messengers from the Nashua church.

One page of this year's Minutes is dedicated to the memory of J. E. Young, who was treasurer of the Association from 1879 to 1896.

The meeting adjourned to meet with the Lathrop church the following year.

1910—SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Association was called to order in the 66th annual meeting by the Moderator, D. G. Saunders, in the Baptist church at Lathrop.

E. H. Foster, Platte City, Pastor, preached the introductory sermon. Theme, "The Sufferings and Glory of Christ."

The report on obituaries show that 43 members of the churches passed away during the year.

1911—SIXTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

This meeting was held with the Trimble church, August 23-24, 1911. The preacher for the annual sermon and the alternate being absent, on motion, W. O. Lewis was chosen to deliver the sermon.

During the session a revival sermon was preached by W. A. Pipkin, which resulted in two conversions.

Two pages are dedicated to the memory of Frank Collins and Elder T. M. S. Kenney. The former was treasurer of the Association from 1897 to 1900 and the latter, Moderator from 1903 to 1905.

The Association voted to hold the next meeting with the Excelsior Springs church.

1912—SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION.

With Bro. D. G. Saunders, Moderator, in the chair, this session was called to order in the Excelsior Springs church, 1912.

Addresses of welcome were made by Hon. A. M. Bates, Mayor of the city, and by Rev. J. C. Midyett, Pastor. A brief reply was made by the Secretary.

Brother P. A. Eubank preached the introductory sermon.

At this meeting twenty-nine Sunday schools reported with 2141 members in attendance. Ten Missionary Societies with 211 members and seven B. Y., P. U. Societies with 231 members.

1913—SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION.

This session met with the Mt. Zion church, Edgerton,

with D. G. Saunders in the chair. The devotional service was led by F. E. Bray, with the assistance of T. P. Stafford and W. H. Edwards.

In the absence of J. C. Midyett, the alternate, T. H. Wiles, delivered the sermon. Theme, "The Sufferings of Christ."

The Sunday School Board reported that four conventions had been held during the year with Little Platte, Lathrop, Smithville and Turney. P. A. Eubank resigned as secretary and moved from the state which somewhat disarranged the work.

The Missionary, W. A. Pipkin, investigated the condition at Parkville and found but four members. Trustees were appointed and instructed to sell the church building which was done during the year.

Two pages of this year's Minutes are dedicated to the memory of E. A. Sharp and T. J. Shouse. The former was treasurer of the Association 1900-1904, and a member of the Liberty church. The latter was treasurer from 1907 to 1910 and was a member of the Pleasant Grove church.

1914—SEVENTIETH ANNUAL SESSION.

Pursuant to adjournment in 1913, the Association gathered in its Seventieth annual meeting with the Smithville Baptist church.

The devotional service was led by W. C. Lyle and the sermon was delivered by Lee Harrell. Theme, "Meeting Jesus."

During the discussion of the B. Y. P. U. report word was conveyed to the Association that Bro. Guy Smith, a resident of the Associational B. Y. P. U. had recently died at his home in Plattsburg.

At a Board meeting held with the Lebanon church during the year it was decided to employ J. A. Cooper as Missionary. Mr. Cooper accepted the work and spent the first three months with Mosby and Linden churches.

1915—SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION.

This session was called to order by the Moderator in the First Baptist church of Plattsburg. F. W. Taylor conducted the devotional service and C. H. Eymann delivered the annual sermon.

J. A. Cooper, Missionary, reported a good year's work while the reports on Sunday school, Woman's work and B. Y. P. U. work show constructive work being done.

The Association adjourned to meet with the Kearney church in August, 1916.

1916—SEVENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION.

The Seventy-Second Annual Session was held with the Kearney church and was called to order by Moderator D. G. Saunders.

The address of welcome was made by Pastor S. I. Myers and the response was made by F. W. Taylor, of Excelsior Springs. G. T. Prewitt, pastor at Cameron, delivered the introductory sermon. The doctrinal sermon was delivered by F. W. Taylor, on the subject, "Bible Sanctification."

In the report on Education by the committee, E. C. Griffith and T. J. Young, mention is made of Roger D. Arnold, son of the tireless and faithful Clerk of the Association, who sails from San Francisco for China on the 26th of August, (this month).

The late J. Percy Stuart, our Missionary to Rome, Italy, made an acceptable address and reminded the Association that he was converted and baptized into the fellowship of the Kearney church.

The following message was read to the Association, and, on motion, was spread on our records, and the sub-joined reply was sent by the Moderator:

"To The North Liberty Association:

"Dear Brethren and Sisters:

"Sitting here at home in the calm of life's evening, my heart filled with sweet memories of more than fifty

years of labor and fellowship with you, I send you cordial greetings and salutation. In the language of the great Apostle to the Gentiles, 'we commend you to God and to the word of His Grace.'

"Your brother,

"Asa N. Bird."

Liberty Mo., Aug. 23rd, 1916.

"Kearney, Mo., Aug. 23rd, 1916.

"Rev. Asa N. Bird, Liberty, Mo.

"Beloved Brother: May your life's evening be as sweet and beautiful as its bright morning and full noon-tide have been, diligent and worthful in the Master's vineyard.

"North Liberty Association,

"By D. G. Saunders, Moderator."

1917—SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION.

On account of an epidemic in the Bethel church community, the Seventy-third meeting was held with the Osborn church, DeKalb county.

G. A. Puckett, Missionary of the Association and supply pastor of the Osborn church, gave an address of welcome and a suitable reply was made by J. S. Cossairt, Chairman of the Mission Board.

The Moderator preached the introductory sermon. Theme, "The Unity of True Religion." W. O. Lewis preached the annual doctrinal sermon using as his subject, "The Second Coming of Christ."

Union Chapel Baptist church, Platte county, applied for membership in the Association and was received.

Reports of all phases of the Associational work were very encouraging and showed progress toward better things.

The Association adjourned to meet with the Weston church, Platte county, August 21, 1918.

Historical Sketch of the Churches

WESTON.

The Weston Baptist church was organized July 16, 1853, with twelve members. A brick church building was erected about 1867 at a cost of \$6,500.00.

The book which recorded the early events of the church has been lost and for a few years no record was kept. No record was kept from 1896 to 1900, but between these dates the old building burned and a new one was started. The following is from minutes of a business meeting held March 31, 1900: "Bro. C. F. D. Arnold, Missionary of the Association, was present and agreed that he would preach one Sunday a month providing we would do our utmost toward completing our church building. His proposition was accepted."

Benjamin Holiday gave the plot of ground on which the two buildings have stood.

In the summer of 1913, a baptistry and two rooms were added to the church and in 1915, the street passing the church was paved which added much to the improvement. At this writing, spring of 1918, plans are being made for a new church home which will be modern and up-to-date.

This church has had the privilege of ordaining the following men to the work of the ministry: C. E. Dicken, ordained in October of 1905; D. Frank Risk, ordained April 6, 1911; A. G. Beller, ordained June 23, 1888.

Pastors.

W. H. Thomas, A. P. Williams, Edward I. Owens, William Barrett, J. W. Luke, J. W. Brown, J. Clay, A. J. Emerson, G. L. Black, J. W. Neff, T. W. Barrett, J. J. Burnett, H. M. Richardson, E. B. Shaw, W. D. Bolton, C. F. D. Arnold, C. A. Westbrook, J. R. Blythe, C. E. Dicken, D. Frank Risk, E. H. Manwarring, G. Elton Harris, H. W. Stanley, J. H. McAfee.

Deacons.

T. A. Mitchell, J. S. Hamm, A. B. Scarce, H. C. Mitchell, Wm. Gross, M. Dale, W. K. Brown, David Risk, A. P. Shouse, J. W. Cox, J. S. Massey, T. H. Graves, Chas. Burns, Irving Rogers, O B. Mitchell, R. H. Woodney, Alvin Crowder.

Sunday School Superintendents.

E. R. Kennedy, W. A. Brown, J. S. Hamm, A. G. Beller, Frank Risk, T. A. Mitchell, H. C. Mitchell.

OSBORN.

(By D. G. Saunders, Stewartsville.)

The Osborn church was organized in the fall of 1871. Rev. Robert Livingston, who was then District Missionary of North Liberty Association, called a council of brethren from Lebanon, Stewartsville and Smith's Fork churches and superintended the organization, and became the first pastor. The constituent members numbered about 15 or 16. Joseph Truex, Silas Murray and Conrad Hoffman were the first deacons and Bro. Truex was clerk and treasurer for ten or twelve years.

The church was organized in a little hall over Bro. Truex's store and for sometime held their meetings there. In December, 1872, Rev. D. G. Saunders of Stewartsville, was called as pastor and took charge of the work in Januray, 1873, and for ten years held the pastorate continuously. During his pastorate of that time the church

prospered greatly, its membership increased from twenty-five to about 130 members. In the fourth year of his pastorate the present substantial meeting house was built at a cost of nearly four thousand dollars.

Very few of the constituent members are living today. Deacon Truex died in 1882, and Deacon Hoffman has long since passed away.

Rev. Saunders was followed in the pastorate by Rev. J. E. Hughes and he by Rev. F. W. Houchens, both of whom have long since passed on to their heavenly reward.

Since 1907, the pastors have been C. L. Fowler, T. C. Brammer, W. B. McGraw, W. Holt Smith, J. A. Cooper, G. A. Pucket, T. P. Potter.

The old records of this church are lost and it is impossible to give complete information.

Deacons.

J. E. J. Everett, J. A. Hankins, Eli Rogers, O. F. Stephens, Chas. D. Clarkson, T. R. Haley.

Sunday School Superintendents.

M. Carter, Wm. Redmond, C. F. McMahill, G. L. Hankins.

BEE CREEK.

This church was organized April 24, 1839. The first church edifice, a frame building, was erected about 1844, and cost \$1,500. The house was rebuilt about the year 1885.

The names of N. Wilson, Francis Wilson, Elizabeth J. Huntsucker, Charlotte Huntsucker, James M. Fulkerson, Mary Fulkerson and Wm. Clay, appear on the records as the constituent members.

This church is located in Platte county, west of Dearborn, but at the present time it has but few members and no services.

James Daniels, was the first pastor followed by Isaiah Williams, J. Clay, B. F. Rice, G. W. Everett, F. W. Hairchen, Wm. Stone.

RANDOLPH.

The Randolph church was organized about 1884-85. C. F. D. Arnold, at that time Secretary of the Sunday School Board, hired students from Wiliam Jewell to conduct a Sunday school at this place. Out of the work done in the school came the organization of the church.

The building was completed, many individuals subscribing to the fund, although a debt was left on hands. Bro. E. Messick, Chairman of the Sunday School Board, raised quite a sum of money for the building and had the debt nearly paid.

Finally the church ceased to exist, as the majority of the members moved away. There was a debt of \$500.00 on this and the Birmingham church so a man, to whom the money was owed, released the building at Birmingham and took the Randolph building for the debt.

CHANDLER.

First Minutes of Chandler Baptist Church.

November 20, 1886.

At the above named time and place a number of Baptist Brothers and Sisters met according to previous announcement for the purpose of organizing themselves into a Baptist church.

They were led in prayer by Rev. A. J. Emerson. After a few appropriate remarks by Rev. A. N. Bird, a council was formed composed of Baptist Ministers present, viz: Rev. A. J. Emerson, A. N. Bird, S. H. Carter, D. F. Cuthbertson and visiting brethren from Kearney and Providence churches as follows: Wm. H. Arnold, Jesse M. Petty, Daniel J. Mathews, John Boggess, John Harrel, T. G. Warren, David Creek, William Stevenson, Garnet Peters and Lee Harell.

The council organized by electing Rev. A. J. Emerson President; W. H. Arnold, Secretary; Rev. S. H. Carter, Moderator, Pro tem and E. T. Goodwin permanent clerk of the church for one year.

The Moderator then presented the church to the council; the council organizing and receiving it as a duly

organized church of Christ.

The President of the council appointed Rev. A. N. Bird to give the Charge to the church and Rev. S. H. Carter to respond in behalf of the church. Bro. Lee Harrell was appointed to deliver the address of welcome, welcoming the church into the family of churches.

Adjourned to meet December 18, 1886.

The church was dedicated February 6, 1887. Rev. J. E. Petty preached the dedication sermon and Rev. A. N. Bird gave the dedication prayer. At this time R. O. Boggess and J. W. Bell were ordained as deacons.

Rev. E. H. Foster and B. G. Tutt conducted the first protracted meeting which began July 26, 1887.

Pastors.

Rev. A. N. Bird was called for one year as the first pastor. Rev. Roberson, Rev. A. G. Jones, 1889-1890; Rev. B. Venerable, 1892-1894; Rev. James Standiford 1894-1896; Rev. J. C. Cox, 1896-1899; Rev. J. S. Cossairt, 1899-1904; Rev. M. L. Bibb, 1905; Rev. C. B. Miller, 1905-1907; Rev. J. S. Cossairt, 1907-1909; Rev. C. E. Dickens, 1909-1910; Dr. W. O. Lewis 1910-1917; Rev. Elmer Love, 1917.

Deacons.

R. O. Boggess, J. W. Bell, J. P. Gill, T. H. Corum, W. J. Rowland, M. L. Gilchrist, Arch Britton, E. E. Petty.

Sunday School Superintendents.

The following have served during the last sixteen years: Melvin Reynolds, Jim Gill, Arch Britton, Edgar Archer, M. L. Gilbert, Ed Dunn, E. E. Petty.

MOUNT VERNON.

The Mount Vernon church was organized in 1857, by Rev. William Barrett. The constituent members were Waltus L. Watkins, Mary N. Watkins, Kate Watkins, Spencer Anderson, Kitty Anderson, Mary Anderson, Rev.

Wm. Barrett, Jackson Garrett, L. B. Garrett, Samuel Hollingsworth, T. W. Barrett, Louisa Barrett, Olivia Barrett and Nancy K. Barrett.

The brick building was constructed in 1871 at a cost of \$5,000, of which more than one-half was contributed by Waltus L. Watkins. The bricks in this building were made on the Watkins farm near the location of the building. Their church, like many others in our territory, has passed through many trials and difficulties, especially during the war.

Some of the early pastors were Rev. William Barrett, Thomas Montgomery, Asa N. Bird, J. W. Luke, G. L. Black, J. J. Feits and others. The present pastor is W. C. Lyle, of Cameron.

CAMERON.

The First Baptist church of Cameron, was organized in August 1866, by W. W. Wheeler, Israel Christy and Joseph Yates, with nine other members.

They first held meetings in the old school house then moved to what was known as Smith school house on east Fourth street. In 1868, they with the Presbyterians built a church house on the corner of Fourth and Orange street, at a cost of about \$3,000.00; two or three years later they bought the Presbyterian interest in the building.

The church was not dedicated until February, 1867. Dedication and Sermon by Pope Yeaman and J. H. Garrett.

They joined North Liberty Association in 1867. Mrs. John S. Nelson, was the first person to join by experience and baptism.

The present house of worship was built in 1891 at a cost of about \$10,000.00, making a large debt to be paid which was finally paid in 1899.

Pastors.

The following Brethren have been pastors: Joseph

Yates, Robert Livingston, James E. Hughes, T. M. S. Kenney, Lycureus Kirthy, Henry C. Yates, J. C. Miller, J. W. Luke, I. R. M. Beeson, J. H. Garnett, R. H. Jones, J. J. Burnett, W. C. Barrett, J. M. P. Martin, C. L. Butts, C. C. Young, Walter Stevens, J. E. Denham, R. L. Kirtland, J. S. Davis, W. W. Searcy, L. V. Edwards, R. M. Webdell, E. P. Garrett, G. T. Prewett and J. T. Parker.

These facts were given by Mrs. John S. Nelson, who is the only one known to be living who was a member of the church in the beginning.

UNION CHAPEL.

The Union Chapel church was built in 1905, by contributions from all denominations in the community. The Christian and Methodist churches were organized first using the house and it was dedicated October 24th, 1905.

The Baptist church was organized January 12th, 1917, with twelve charter members. There has been but one pastor, W. E. Bruner.

Deacons.

Chas. F. Green, Marion Shields, G. E. Chamberlain. Marion Shields was the first and only Sunday school superintendent at this writing.

PLEASANT HILL (Old Nebo.)

This church was organized about 1857, with the following constituent members: T. N. O'Brian, Jefferson Turner and wife, Elizabeth Free and Jane Orrick.

The first services were held in the school house until the church building was erected in 1883 at a cost of \$600. It is located about four and one-half miles southeast of Liberty on one of the highest points between St. Louis and Kansas City.

There has been no regular service for some time although a very good Sunday school is conducted through the summer months.

KEARNEY.

The Kearney Baptist church was organized December 25, 1856, at the home of Rev. John S. Major with 21 members present.

The services were held in the home of Rev. Major and a school house near by until the church building located in the south part of town was completed. The church having been built during the year of our civil war, necessarily had many delays and was some years in building. The congregation first called their church home Mt. Olive, but changed it to First Baptist church about 1872.

In the spring of 1900 a storm took away the roof of the old brick building and so damaged the structure that a new one was necessary. After careful consideration the present site near town was purchased and on Sunday, June 16, 1901, the corner stone of the present building was laid with appropriate ceremony, Dr. Stafford delivering the address. The building was completed within one year, and dedicated in June, 1903, Rev. W. A. Crouch preaching the sermon.

Rev. G. E. Kennedy was the last pastor in the old and Rev. R. H. Jones the first pastor in the new church, followed by Dr. D. J. Evans, who has the record of serving for a longer period than any other pastor, that of seven years. Dr. C. M. Phillips then became pastor, and was followed by Rev. Stephen I. Myers, who has served the church since September, 1915.

Since that time a basement and a new heating plant have been put in, making the church home practically modern in equipment in every respect, except a pastor's study.

Pastors.

James E. Hughes, J. J. Felts, A. Matchett, T. H. Graves, A. J. Emerson, J. M. P. Martin, G. L. Black, J. M. Jones, Alexander Barton, who died at Kearney, L. T. Fisher, J. M. Bruce, W. A. Crouch, W. C. Lyle, J. E. Petty,

Wm. T. Russell, G. E. Kennedy, R. H. Jones, D. J. Evans,
C M Phillips, S. I. Myers.

Deacons.

Malry Cave, Stephen S. Major, Joseph Flood, B. B. Petty, Sr., W. S. Haggard, John Ligon, Will Arnold, Robt. S. Anderson, L. Stollings, Jno. Robertson, Emanuel Mes-sick, R. D. Woods, Robt. S. Pence, Sr., Emerson, Green, T. H. Corum, R. W. Groomer, Alex. Henderson, W. H. Coates, Fred Maughmer, W. J. Rowland, J. O. Shouse.

The Sunday school records were burned in 1917.

PARADISE.

There being a few members of the Baptist faith around Paradise, a series of meetings were held by J. E. Petty and G. A. Crouch, Missionaries of the Association, and a council was called to organize a church. This coun-cil met, and organized a church with twenty-three mem-bers, February 28, 1895. The congregation worshipped in the Christian church until 1899, when they built their own house of worship.

The new church was dedicated on the fifth Sunday in October, 1899. This service was in charge of G. L. Black, who had the assistance of Rev. James Standiford, Rev. T. R. Carr, G. W. Everett, and Lee Harrell preaching the sermon.

Pastors.

James Standiford, J. C. Cox, D. A. Cuthbertson, W. H. Tolliver, C. F. D. Arnold, D. G. Saunders, E. M. Lands, J. H. McAfee, J. C. Standlee.

Deacons.

Berry Wade, L. P. Wade, Mason Hibbard, S. S. Hal-ferty.

Sunday School Superintendents.

C. L. Wade, Mason Hibbard, Berry Wade, A. F. Wil-ley, S. S. Halferty.

LIBERTY.

The Second Baptist church of Liberty was organized by Rev. A. P. Williams, May 19, 1843, with thirteen members. The Old School Baptists had an organization at Liberty at this time called the First Baptist church, so Mr. Williams and his congregation called the new organization the Second Baptist church. Elder Williams was the first pastor and in eight years increased the membership from 13 to 194. The church home was erected in 1844.

This church was one of the five to send delegates to the New Hope church for the purpose of organizing an Association and has faithfully served the organization. In 1906, the church was granted a letter to unite with Blue River Association.

PLEASANT RIDGE.

Elder A. P. Williams, assisted by Elder P. N. Haycraft, Baptist preachers, held a meeting in Weston January 27, 1844, and several persons present holding letters of dismission from other Baptist churches concluded to go into the constitution of a church called the Pleasant Ridge United Baptist church. Thomas W. Mitchell was chosen clerk and A. P. Williams Moderator of the meeting.

This meeting adjourned to meet February 1, 1844, at the school house near I. W. Vineyards. (The above was taken from the first minutes).

About March, 1844, the church decided to erect a house of worship which was soon completed but was badly damaged by fire in 1855. The building was soon repaired and served the people for years but finally had to be torn down and the present building was erected. The bricks for these buildings were made just across the road from the present church and much of the work was donated by the members.

During the first few years of the work there were large numbers added to the membership as there was no other Baptist church for many miles. In the early days families would come for miles driving ox teams to attend the preaching services. The old building was constructed with a gallery in the rear which was always occupied by the colored members of the church.

At the third meeting a committee was appointed to meet with delegates from Liberty, New Hope and Richmond for the purpose of organizing an Association. At the fifth meeting a report of the convention was made and the church approved and adopted the plans for the organization of North Liberty Association.

Pastors.

A. P. Williams, Wm. Price, W. H. Thomas, Rev. Dunn, I. T. Williams, J. J. Felts, J. Clay, J. W. Luke, E. H. Foster, G. L. Black, G. W. Everett, J. S. Cheavens, R. H. Jones, Lee Harrell, B. Venerable, D. T. Griffith, J. P. Reaves, Grover Swarts, W. D. Bolton.

Deacons.

T. D. Henderson, Wm. A. Guthrie, Thomas Herndon, Payton George, M. H. Gabbert, W. H. Miller, Frazier Herndon, Marion Miller, Will McFarland, James Cooper, Wm. Kenny, T. A. Mitchell, Luther Overbeck, Joseph Nowers, Jr., M. Dale, Edward Pence.

Sunday School Superintendents.

M. Miller, T. H. Gabbert, J. W. Miller, O. B. Mitchell, W. H. Miller, Waller Miller, L. W. Overbeck, Bettie Pence, Wm. McFarland.

TURNERY.

In accordance with an arrangement which had been announced some weeks before, about a score of members from the Smith's Fork church and a number from other churches met in Turney, November 17th, 1888, for the

purpose of organizing a Baptist church. After devotional exercises the house was called to order by Rev. W. A. Crouch. Rev. G. L. Black was chosen as Moderator and O. P. Williams as Clerk. The Moderator called for the reading of the letters of those who desired to go into the new organization. After the reading of the letters W. A. Crouch read the Articles of Faith as found in Brown's Encyclopedia and these were adopted by the body. It was then moved that the church go into the election of four deacons; the motion carried and the following members were elected: Abner Thomas, John T. Smith, John C. Breckenridge and Aden Crouch.

J. C. Breckenridge was elected as clerk, A. B. Williams as treasurer and W. A. Crouch, A. B. Williams and John T. Smith were elected trustees.

Pastors.

W. A. Crouch, W. C. Lyle, Leo Harrell, J. N. Bowling, R. H. Jones, J. C. Cox, R. C. Miller, C. B. Miller, Rev. Dabney, M. P. Paddock, W. F. Griggs, J. A. Cooper, G. A. Puckett, Elmer Love.

Deacons.

John T. Smith, Abner Thomas, John C. Breckenridge, A. P. Crouch, Chas. Sloan, R. J. Dunlap, I. J. Neff, A. D. Walker, F. S. McKown, A. B. Morris, W. A. Crouch, Jr.

Sunday School Superintendents.

A. D. Walker, Elliott Lane, W. W. Silvius, F. S. McKown, W. A. Crouch.

NASHUA.

The Nashua church was organized August 16, 1908. The present substantial building was erected during June and July of 1909, and was dedicated August 8, 1909. The church was dedicated free from debt with the exception of \$250 which the members borrowed on their personal notes but was paid off within six months after the

dedication service.

The meeting for the organization of this church was held in the Chapel Car, "Messenger of Peace," and on motion, Rev. J. S. Davis, Missionary in charge of the car, was chosen Moderator of the meeting. There were ten charter members who entered into this new work.

Pastors.

J. A. Wilson, E. A. Coats, Lee Harrell, W. J. Silvius, D. W. Jones, W. C. Barclay.

Deacons.

T. D. St. John, S. F. Collins, J. W. Critcher, Grover Thorp, Will Taylor.

Sunday School Superintendents.

The Sunday school was organized in September, 1909, and during the ten years work the school has failed to meet but twice. There have been but two Superintendents, O. L. St. John and J. W. Carter.

MOUNT ZION.

This church was organized March 6, 1844, and is located in Edgerton, Platte county. The church building was moved from the country into the town of Edgerton in 1884, and completed in the spring of 1885. The constituent members were: William Newman, Elizabeth Newman, Isaac Moody, Rebecca Moody, Elizabeth Moody, Wm. Moody, Francis Newman, James White, Wm. Matterson and Jane Smith.

James Liggett was ordained to the ministry December, 1868, James Standiford in January 1877 and J. F. Moody, December, 1880.

Pastors.

Peter Swain, Mathis Cline, Jonas Wilson, J. D. Brooks, J. Clay, Thos. Cook, I. T. Williams, N. Roberts, J. D. DeBerry, Thos. Montgomery, J. Clay, B. F. Rice,

G. W. Everett, R. H. Jones, J. L. Carmichael, J. N. Bowling, B. Venerable, C. F. Acree, M. B. Paddock, L. E. Marvin, E. F. Estes.

Deacons.

D. D. Newman, J. Y. Moody, W. Dick, James Grady, George Leeper, W. D. Standiford, Alfred Liggett, J. P. Cox, I. S. Miller, D. Masoner, C. L. Hamilton, M. F. Martin, A. B. Hayden, Frank Collier, H. H. Patterson, Lucian Davis, John T. Stone, D. A. Clouser, Emerson Green.

The Sunday school records have not been preserved so it is not possible to give the names of Superintendents.

PRAIRIE HOME.

Prairie Home Baptist church was organized October 19, 1890, with twenty-one charter members. The building was constructed in 1891 and was dedicated November 29, 1891.

At the organization G. L. Black was chairman and T. J. Cook secretary. The first trustee was J. M. Harrell and the first deacons were E. P. Harrell and J. B. Creek.

Pastors.

B. Venerable, Parker Stockdale, J. C. Cox, J. S. Cossairt, Ray Berry, C. E. Dicken, Rev. Maness, Sam Bristoe, W. F. Braswell, D. T. Griffith, J. T. Reeves, A. W. Urquhart, W. A. Crum, Oscar Higgins.

Deacons.

E. P. Harrell, J. B. Creek, W. H. Laffoon, W. A. Forman, Wm. E. Munkirs.

Sunday School Superintendents.

The Sunday school was organized in the spring of 1890 and led to the organization of the church. It was

organized through the efforts of Mrs. W. F. Fourt (now deceased). The records have been lost and the following list was given from memory: E. P. Harrell, W. H. Laf-foon, A. S. Winston, Mrs. Mary Boggess, Kirk Burke, Mrs. John Clark, Pence Burke.

PLATTSBURG.

The First Baptist church of Plattsburg was organized December 4, 1854, by Elders F. Graves, W. C. Batchelor and Deacon M. Everett. There were eight charter members. Their names are as follows: Samuel H. Smith, and Henrietta S. Smith, William L. Ferguson and Fannie A. Ferguson, James E. Young and Louisiana Young, J. Patton and Edith Patton.

The first meetings of the church were held in the old court house, the college and the school house. The old edifice, which stood where the present house of worship now stands and which was torn down when the present building was erected, was erected in 1869-70, by T. C. Favee, at a cost of about \$4,200, and was dedicated the first Sunday of November, 1870, Dr. Thomas Rambant preaching the dedication sermon.

The old meeting house was long considered inadequate, and at a business meeting, March 1, 1902, the church unanimously voted to build a new house of worship, and a committee was appointed to raise the sum of \$8,000 for that purpose. One month later, at a business meeting the committee reported a subscription of more than \$8,000. The committee was then instructed to collect the entire amount at once and deposit it in the bank. The following building committee was appointed: J. E. Bohart, J. H. Walker, R. W. Rea, S. L. Carter, S. M. Smith, Mrs. R. Morgan, Jr., J. P. Lewis, W. H. Hawkins and S. M. Froman, who directed the work with great wisdom and care. On September 1, 1903, the building was completed at a total cost of \$12,050.25, all of which was paid before the building was completed. Sunday,

October 18, 1903, the church was dedicated free of debt, no money being collected on the day of dedication. Dr. J. J. Porter, of Joplin, Mo., preached the dedicatory sermon.

Sincere love to God and man led that little heroic band of eight persons together fifty years ago. They met with bitter hostility. The story of the struggles is a record of patient suffering, noble endeavor and strong faith.

The pastors of the church have been W. C. Batchelor, I. T. Williams, W. C. Barrett, W. A. Crouch, B. G. Manard, F. J. Leavitt, R. H. Jones, G. W. Rodgers, Lee Harrell, J. N. Bowling, W. L. Dorgan, T. M. S. Kenney and B. D. Weeks, C. H. Eyman, J. S. Cossairt.

PLATTE CITY.

A meeting was held in Platte City on December 20, 1850, by members of the United Baptist Denomination, for the purpose of considering the propriety of constituting a church in said city.

The meeting was organized by calling Joshua Boyd to the chair and appointing A. P. Williams secretary. After mature deliberation it was agreed to organize a church. A meeting for that purpose was set for the third Saturday in January 1851.

It was resolved to invite Elders F. Graves of New Hope, W. C. Thomas of Pleasant Grove and A. P. Williams of Pleasant Ridge churches to meet with the body on the above named date.

At the second meeting on January 18th, 1851, a sermon was delivered by W. H. Thomas on "The Church," after which the meeting was called to order and Bro. Williams was appointed clerk of the meeting. The Church Covenant and Articles of Faith were adopted. On proper motion the church was organized and after prayer by the Moderator and charge by the clerk, the right hand of fellowship was given to nineteen members present.

The church was to be known as the Platte City Baptist church.

During the year 1854 the house of worship was erected, and a debt incurred which troubled the members until March, 28, 1867, when John H. Wilhite raised by subscription the sum of \$1,390, and paid off the debt.

This church, like the others of the early day, suffered many things, especially during the Civil war. A raiding party entered Platte City on the night of December 16, 1861, and burned the M. E. Church South, the Presbyterian church and the court house. At another time raiders entered the town and burned nearly all the buildings but spared the Baptist and Christian churches. From 1861 to 1867, the circuit court was held in the Baptist church and the Presbyterian and Methodist brethren also held services there.

Pastors.

Wm. H. Thomas, Josiah Leak, Dr. E. I. Owen, S. H. Olmstead, Wm. Thomson, J. Clay, J. J. Felts, J. W. Brown, W. A. Crouch, Joshua Boyd, G. W. Everett, R. H. Jones, C. A. Buchanan, A. Hunt, R. S. Cook, Lee Harrell, Harry Foster, T. H. Wiles, W. R. Regan, J. B. Hunt.

Deacons.

Judge Norton, John H. Wilhite, Thos. Henderson, Joshua Boyd, John H. White, Chas. Rice, Dr. B. F. Records, Patrick Coots, James Miller, Sr., John Elliott, Geo. Rixy, Jesse Settle, A. L. Miller, Charles Rice, John George, S. O. Galbraith, Charles Farmer, Jackson Miller.

LITTLE PLATTE.

July 29, 1886, twenty members, having obtained letters of dismission from Mount Zion Baptist church, met at the Centenary Methodist church for the purpose of organizing Little Platte Baptist church. The house of wor-

ship was built in 1888, and was dedicated on the third Sunday in July, 1889.

Pastors.

Rev. F. M. Shouse, 1886-1888; Rev. C. A. Buchannan, 1888; Rev. R. M. Inlow, 1889-1890; Rev. J. L. Downing, 1890-1891; Rev. J. W. Rucker, 1891-1896; Rev. J. C. Cox, 1896-1900; Rev. D. G. Saunders, 1901-1905; Rev. A. L. Gartin 1906-1908; Rev. C. F. Acree, 1908-1910; Rev. T. H. Wiles, 1911-1912; Rev. J. A. Cooper, 1913; Rev. W. J. Matherly, 1913-1915; Rev. J. B. Hunt, 1915-1916; Rev. A. L. Gartin, 1916-1917; Rev. J. H. McAfee, 1917.

Deacons.

John Thomas, Ernest Kimsey, Robert Baber, Ed Murphy, Joseph Cobb, Marion Edwards, W. A. Herndon, T. L. Herndon, Edgar Day, Jesse Edwards.

Sunday School Superintendents.

W. E. Day, J. A. Cockriel, J. C. Cockriel, Jackson Heath, Jesse Edwards, W. C. Edwards, Ed Murphy, Ernest Kimsey, James Baber, Jesse Baber, James Sode-man.

FISHING RIVER (Mosby.)

Fishing River church was organized about 1868. The constituent members were, T. Peltz, P. G. Smith, N. H. King, T. W. Wilson, Nancy Wilson, John McCrackin, and Martin Price.

The building was erected in 1874 at a cost of \$700.00. For the past few years the church has been losing ground and for the past two or three years there have been no regular services.

Some of the early pastors were John Harman, William Ferguson, S. H. Carter, T. H. Graves, Dr. Rothwell, Asa N. Bird, S. J. Norton, D. G. Saunders, Rev. Petty, Lee Harrell, Brethren Tutt, Greggs, Pearson, Pullium, Benson, Kennedy, O. P. Bishop, O. L. Bishop, C. C. Overman, J. R. Hyder and Rev. Stanbrough.

DEARBORN

The Dearborn Baptist church was organized March 24, 1893, with twenty-two charter members.

Pastors.

G. L. Black, W. A. Crouch, R. H. Jones, C. F. D. Arnold, G. W. Everett, S. E. Rogers, R. K. Maiden, G. E. Harris, J. R. Manty, Fred White, W. E. Goudie.

Deacons.

E. R. George, John Bruce, R. H. Bruce, F. E. Jeffers, Lucian Davis.

Sunday School Superintendents.

R. H. Bruce, M. L. Dix, T. J. Means, Sr., F. E. Jeffers, Lucian Davis.

TRIMBLE.

On the first day of April, 1899, the people of the community met for the purpose of organizing a church at Trimble. At this meeting G. L. Black was chosen as chairman and G. E. Kennedy as clerk. The church was dedicated in 1899, with all debts paid and the way clear for effective work. W. A. Crouch had charge of the services.

Pastors.

G. W. Everett, E. V. Lamb, O. L. Wood, Rev. Scott, Rev. Drumwright, Lee Harrell, Rev. Crawford, J. N. Wynn, C. F. Acree, Sam Bristow, W. L. Mitchell, A. Q. Burns, A. L. Gartin, Fred White.

Deacons.

J. S. Miller, P. S. Newman, D. A. Clouser, P. L. St. John, E. H. Barnes.

Sunday School Superintendents.

D. A. Clouser was the first superintendent followed by P. L. St. John, Geo. R. Denny, O. E. Connell, F. A. New-

man, Jack Humphrey.

BETHEL.

The Bethel church was organized in the Pleasant Valley school house in 1872, by Elder James Rouse. The present house of worship, a frame building, was erected in 1883, at a cost of \$1,500.

SMITHVILLE.

The Smithville church was organized in the spring of 1873. The first pastor was L. D. Lampkin. In 1882, the church home was built at a cost of \$1,700.

The constituent members were J. D. DeBerry and wife, Mary A. DeBerry, J. B. Colley and wife, S. P. Herndon, Eliza and Emeline Herndon, Mary J. Parker and Clarissa H. Basley.

CAMDEN POINT.

The Camden Point church was organized on October 12, 1844. The first building was of brick and was built in 1867, at a cost of about \$3,500.

Pastors.

B. Venerable, J. W. Hickerson, W. A. Crouch, R. H. Jones, M. B. Paddock, Lee Harrell, C. M. Phillips, J. E. Bell.

Deacons.

Geo. W. Rixey, J. R. Duncan, John Buchanan, H. C. Bell, Jesse Settle, A. A. Miller, W. W. Bywater, W. A. Miller, Dr. E. B. Hull, W. C. Montgomery.

Sunday School Superintendents.

Clay Davidson, Max Martini, Tom Everett, Clarence Everett, R. H. Hull, H. C. Bell, W. C. Montgomery.

MOUNT ZION. (Clinton County).

The Mount Zion Baptist church was organized at the old Mount Zion church in 1866, with eleven members.

The church house was used by Baptists and Presbyterians until 1874, when the present house was built. This building was dedicated April 1, 1877, with Dr. W. Pope Yeaman preaching the sermon.

One interesting fact about the church is that up to the last year the church has never been divided on a vote of any kind. She has always been prompt in paying pastors, keeping up all expenses and giving to missions.

Not having records back of 1875, it is not possible to give all the work in detail.

Pastors.

A. N. Bird, A. J. Emerson, W. T. Campbell, F. M. Wadley, G. L. Black, J. M. Jones, I. T. Williams, H. A. Hunt, C. F. D. Arnold, I. T. Carmichael, G. W. Rodgers, E. L. Howard, M. Martin, James Standiford, T. H. Dabney, C. P. Jones, J. D. Chappellee, Sam Bristow, E. M. Lands, O. G. Matthews, T. P. Potter.

Deacons.

Isaac D. Lewis, Charles Sloan, Daniel Lamb, E. E. Lindsey, Ellis Downing, E. S. Green, W. C. McFarland, T. H. Corum, W. H. Coates, H. M. Marsh, D. M. Carrel.

Sunday School Superintendents.

As there has been no Sunday school part of the time and no records kept it is only possible to give a partial list of these names. Ellis Downing, W. C. McFarland, T. H. Corum, W. H. Coates, J. T. Eberts, D. M. Carrel, H. M. Marsh.

ELM GROVE.

The Elm Grove church was organized in 1857, and the present brick building was erected in 1859, at a cost

of \$3,500.

Some of the pastors have been G. L. Black, T. W. Williams, A. N. Bird, E. H. Foster, T. W. Wiles, Lee Harrell, Rev. Regan, H. C. Elema.

LEBANON.

The Lebanon church was organized in 1842, at the home of Matthew Everett, (father of Rev. G. W. Everett), by Revs. Dunnegan and Riggs. There were eight constituent members.

The church was first called Little Flock and for ten years held their meetings in the homes of some of their members. Mathew Everett and Rolland Hankins were the first deacons and Rev. Riggs was the first pastor. An old log school house was sometimes used for the services and near this old building a burial ground was started in which the first pastor, Rev. Solomon Riggs was buried, and there today in a large cattle pasture, unmarked and unknown is his grave.

Among the early pastors of this old historic church was Rev. Jonas D. Wilson, who acted as pastor and school teacher in the old log building for several years. Two of his school boys in after years became pastor of the church, D. G. Saunders and G. W. Everett. The pastorate of Bro. Saunders was the longest one ever held, that of eight years. Rev. Franklin Graves was another of the early pastors and he baptized the mother and father of Bro. Saunders. R. H. Saunders was a deacon and he and Mathew Everett were largely responsible for the raising of funds for the new brick building which was erected ten years after the organization. After the building of the brick house the name Lebanon was suggested by Mathew Everett and for 65 years it has borne that name.

In 1872, Rev. I. T. Williams became pastor and during this pastorate D. G. Saunders and G. W. Everett were licensed to preach the Gospel. In 1875, Bro. Saunders was called as pastor and Bro. Everett has served the church

twice as pastor.

In the year of 1895, the old brick house was pulled down and the present commodious frame building was erected.

Pastors.

Other pastors have been: W. C. Bratcher, J. L. Black, J. E. Hughes, W. C. Barrett, B. F. Rice, F. W. Houchins, J. Clay, C. F. D. Arnold, James Standiford, P. A. Eubank, W. C. Lyle and others. T. P. Potter is the present pastor.

Deacons.

Matthew Everett, Rowland Hankins, R. H. Saunders, Wm. Church, B. F. Morris, Matthew Tucker, R. G. Chappell, J. F. Swope, G. T. McWilliams, Joseph Chamberlain, J. E. J. Swearingen, A. L. Swope, Sim McWilliams.

SMITH FORK.

From 1854 to 1860, there were a number of Baptists in the vicinity of Smith Fork that met in the Hughes school house and the Round Prairie church (M. E. South) for services. Their fervent hearts desire saw fruition on March 6, 1860. According to announcement and agreement they assembled to be constituted into a Baptist church. After the devotional service the letters were read and the church organized. At the April meeting the name of Smith Fork was chosen as the church was to be located on the Smith Fork creek.

Rev. G. L. Black was called as the first pastor at a salary of \$50.00 a year for monthly services. W. S. Beaty was the first clerk and John L. Hockensmith the first deacon.

Rev. Black resigned in 1863, and in February 1864, Rev. James E. Hughes was called to the pastorate and was followed by Rev. W. C. Barrett in 1866. In 1869, Rev. A. N. Bird was called to the work.

In January, 1870, a committee was appointed to select a location for a building. This committee selected chose the northeast corner of the John Stilfield farm and the lot was donated by Bro. Stilfield which consisted of about two acres. A building committee was appointed and the house was ready for occupancy in the late part of September. The soliciting committee raised about \$1,800 for the building and equipment.

The church was dedicated free from debt on the fifth Sunday of October, 1870. Dr. Rambeau, President of William Jewell, preached the dedication sermon.

In December the church suffered a great loss when a number of the members withdrew their letters to go into a church organization at Osborn.

The first Sunday school mentioned was in May, 1870, with J. J. Kelly, as the superintendent.

About 1889, another loss of membership came to the church when 35 or 40 members moved their letters into the Turney church which was just organized. This large delegation going away and afterwards several others, greatly crippled the mother church, from which she never recuperated her once large membership.

Other pastors have been, H. E. Truex, W. A. Crouch, W. F. Houchins, E. L. Howard, John S. Cheavens, Robert N. Gore, J. C. Cox, A. E. Bigelow, C. E. Richeson, A. L. Gartin, G. F. Barton, Joel E. Bruner, Hal C. Head, Oscar Higgins.

Deacons.

T. F. Walker, J. L. Hockinsmith, J. L. Plummer, Robert Doak, Samuel Burr, C. B. Porter, R. L. McKee, Cyrus Williams.

Sunday School Superintendents.

Waldon F. Kelley, Miller Kelley, Samuel Burr, J. T. Plummer, J. L. Ashby, J. L. Russell, M. G. Ashby, Luke Williams, R. L. McKee, C. B. Porter, W. J. Smith.

LATHROP.

The first business meeting of the Lathrop Baptist church was held Saturday before the first Sunday in April, 1870. R. Livingston was elected chairman and W. W. Middaugh secretary.

The first pastor was W. C. Barrett, who was called in May at a salary of \$200. James A. Burk was the first church clerk. The first regular prayer meeting was organized in 1871.

In the first few years of the church's history the meetings were held in the Methodist and Presbyterian churches and in the homes of the members. In 1876, a committee was appointed consisting of R. Gearhart, James Leake and J. A. Burke, to erect a house of worship. This committee did good work and April 1, 1877, a building was dedicated which cost about \$2,100. The sermon was preached by Dr. Pope Yeaman.

This frame structure served as the church home through all the years until 1915 when plans were laid for a new brick building. The pastor, Rev. J. S. Cossairt, helped to carry out this great work and in January, 1916, a modern church home was dedicated. Dr. J. P. Green, President of William Jewell, preached the sermon for the dedication services. The building was constructed at a cost of \$11357.00 and is one of the best churches in our Association.

The following have been granted license to preach the gospel message: Edd Stoffer, Pearley Harmon, C. D. Dunlap, Leonard Frisbee and J. E. Petty was ordained by this church.

The records of two periods of the church history which cover twenty years of the work have been destroyed. Some mistakes may have been made in this sketch of the Lathrop church, as much of the report had to come from memory.

Pastors.

W. C. Barrett, N. Fox, J. W. Luke, M. J. Beecher, W. T. Fleenor, J. E. Petty, R. H. Jones, F. J. Leavitt, R. P. Johnson, J. L. Carmichael, J. A. Neff, W. A. Crouch, O. P. Bishop, Wm. Little, J. S. Cossart, J. E. Bell.

Deacons.

J. A. Burk, Jas. Leake, R. B. Barrett, J. A. Eldridge, Nimrod Ford, Lee Smith, Chas. Downing, Frank Collins, T. H. West, L. McDonald, Daniel Leabo, R. Beatley, P. M. Anderson, George Budlong, T. J. Young, W. A. Shrewsbury.

Sunday School Superintendents.

E. G. Kinney, R. B. Barrett, J. A. Burke, J. Downing, A. J. Orem, J. A. Burk, B. Whittaker, Sister L. H. Maret, N. M. Perry, Walter Wilhoit, Leonard Frisbee, Charles Schaffner.

HOLT.

The Holt Baptist church was organized February 14, 1884, and the house of worship was dedicated in 1885. The dedication service was held in June of 1885, and the church began work with fifty-three charter members.

Pastors.

M. P. Hunt, C. A. Buchanan, H. C. Barton, J. L. Carmichael, A. T. Jones, J. A. Standiford, W. T. Russell, G. E. Kennedy, T. H. Dabney, M. L. Bibb, I. T. Williams, C. B. Miller, J. D. Chappell, J. C. Guthrie, Sam Bristow, T. M. Estes, Ward H. Edwards.

Deacons.

W. P. Garrett, Byron Alnutt, William Downing, J. D. Henderson, A. J. Gow, A. L. Dailey, J. T. Downing, Wm. Gillespie, Chas. Albright, Joel King, G. W. Gillespie.

Sunday School Superintendents.

Hillie Henderson, Bro. Goodwin, L. W. Overbeck, J. B. Fugitt, Chas. Albright.

PARKVILLE.

This church was organized at Barry about 1842, and was known for years as the County Line Church. In November, 1852, it was moved to Parkville and a house erected which cost about 2,000.

The church organization ceased to exist after many years and about five or six years ago the building was sold for \$1,000. The income from this money was to be used by the Association until the church should reorganize then it was to go back into the church treasury. The money has never been used because the Association is not incorporated and cannot secure the use of it until such incorporation is made.

Pastors.

E. S. Dulin, I. T. Williams, Robert Thomas, Wm. Thompson, J. Clay, Spencer Olmstead, A. N. Bird, James Rowen, J. W. Brown, Rev. Shuln, C. F. D. Arnold.

NEW HOPE.

Because of no records available only the following report was given of this church. The New Hope church was organized in 1829, and is one of the oldest churches in the Association. It was here that the convention was held when North Liberty Association was organized in 1844. This church like others of the early day had struggles and hardships to overcome and had to serve a large territory.

There have been two buildings erected the last one being completed in the fall of 1898. At the present time only a few members are left to carry on the work and the church is on a standstill.

Pastors.

Since 1899 the following have been pastors: J. W. McAtee, C. F. D. Arnold, Rev. Dabney, G. E. Barnham, A. T. Jones, W. P. Broadbeck.

There is no report of Sunday school work in years gone by but the following three men have been Superintendents along with others in the past. T. J. Duncan, R. C. McIlvain and R. A. Phillips.

STEWARTSVILLE.

The First Baptist church of Stewartsville was organized June 30, 1866, with 13 charter members. Wm. H. Standiford was the clerk and Elder Manton moderator of the meeting at the organization. Of the number which composed the church at the beginning, none are known to be living although two or three moved away years ago and have never been heard from. Elder Yates was called as the first pastor of the church.

Several attempts were made to build a church but for years the little band met in buildings which could be rented. The church met in a call meeting July 1, 1881, for the purpose of working out plans for a new building. A committee was appointed to raise funds for this purpose. Later at a regular business meeting a building committee was appointed which worked out plans from which a house of worship was erected costing about \$2,000. The building was dedicated by Dr. E. S. Dulin, of St. Joseph on Christmas day, 1881.

Sister Octavia Saunders has been a member longer than any one else, having joined in 1879. Sister Sallie Romeltree is the oldest member, being ninety years of age. Brother R. G. Chappell is the oldest deacon, being now in his 90th year. The present membership is about 85.

A history of the work of this church would hardly be complete without the mention of the faithful old colored man, Uncle Jake Carpenter, who did the janitor work for 25 years. He rang the bell for the dedication service on Christmas day 1881, and on Christmas Day, 1906, his funeral was held from the church. The ringing of the bell and the keeping of the house in order he felt was as of much importance as the sermons to be preached. He was faithful to his work.

Pastors.

Joseph Yates, J. W. Luke, Robert Livingston, G. W. Everett, J. E. Hughes, B. F. Rice, D. G. Saunders, A. Hunt, A. R. Hunt, T. F. Kelly, W. W. Brown, A. L. Garten,

J. D. Chappell, J. B. Smith, L. T. Wallace, J. A. Copper, T. P. Potter.

Deacons.

The present deacons are R. G. Chappell, T. J. Aughnbough, G. W. Smith, E. P. Pickett, S. I. McWilliams, M. B. Winger, Dr. L. F. Stuart.

Sunday School Superintendents.

The Sunday school organized in 1884, with Bro. Ben Johnson, now of Liberty, as the first Superintendent. Others have been, B. M. Stigall, G. A. Everett, Mrs. Mary Kuck, T. J. Aughnbough, A. L. Everett.

PROVIDENCE.

At the home of Peyton T. Townsend, on April 29, 1848, the Providence church was organized by Rev. Robert James and Rev. Franklin Graves. P. N. Edwards was chosen the first clerk of the church. The first church home was constructed in 1850, and in February, of 1880, it was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt the same year at a cost of \$2,000. The present building is erected of brick and is located about six miles northwest of Liberty, in Liberty township.

Some of the pastors have been G. L. Black, W. A. Curd, Robert James, I. T. Williams, John Major, A. N. Bird, A. J. Emerson, and the present pastor is Ward H. Edwards.

CROOKED RIVER.

The Crooked River Baptist church was organized about 1868, and like many other churches it has had difficulties to overcome. This church was located about six miles east of Lathrop and during the years has served the community. In 1915, a new house of worship was erected which is a credit to the Baptists of this place.

The following have been pastors of this field: W. C. Barrett, Wm. Johnson, J. Luke, A. W. Chambliss, J. M. P. Martin, J. H. Stephens, C. F. D. Arnold, D. G. Saunders,

T. J. Puckett, C. M. Benight, R. C. Miller, P. T. Harmon, P. A. Eubank, S. C. Williamson, Allen Prewitt, E. A. Chapman, W. C. Lyle, and the present pastor, C. F. D. Arnold.

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS.

The First Baptist Church of Excelsior Springs was organized in February, 1885, by W. A. Crouch and S. J. Norton. The church began its work with only a few members, but with a determined spirit. The following were the charter members of the organization: Hiram Matthews and wife, Benjamin Garrett, Mrs. Holt, William Dillon and wife, Robert Minter, Albert Campbell and wife, Austin Boone, L. Shipp, James Huey and wife.

The frame building was erected about 1885 at a cost of ten or twelve thousand dollars. Additional rooms and a substantial basement have been added in the last few years which makes a good building for work.

Francis W. Taylor is the present pastor and P. J. Bollinger the superintendent of the Sunday School. The names of pastor, deacons and superintendents were not secured for this sketch.

OTHER CHURCHES.

Linden and Mount Carmel churches have been doing no work for the last two or three years. Since this sketch was begun the Linden church was taken over as a mission field of the Nashua church. The Fishing River church (Mosby) has also been made a mission field and will be worked from the Excelsior Springs church.

Shoal Creek, Richfield, Mt. Olive and Rolling Ridge churches which were once organized in Clay county no longer exist. These, with Hainesville, in Clinton county, were organized about the year 1856.

NOTE—This Sketch being written in April, of 1918, it will not be possible to give data for this year. As Missionary of the Association in the second year's work, may I say that the plan of pastoring churches along with the general activities is not the plan to solve our problems. Under the plan mentioned as we worked last year and under which J. A. Cooper worked for two years, we were not able to give the needed attention to the field work. Under the plan of this year, full time in the field, the work is moving ahead and the churches doing good work. In the services and special meetings of the territory I have had over 150 additions to the churches besides many other things accomplished through the co-operation of the churches.

In the closing of this sketch (which is being written about six months after the book was started) I add an apology for any mistakes or omissions which may have crept into the work. The pages mentioned in the preface by our oldest workers were secured and published with the exception of one page which is not available. The pictures in the following section are all that could be secured of the churches.

May this sketch serve its purpose until a complete volume is published by some writer in the future.





First Baptist Church at Kearney



Second Baptist Church, Liberty.



Baptist Church at Platte City



Providence Baptist Church



Chandler Baptist Church



Mount Vernon Baptist Church



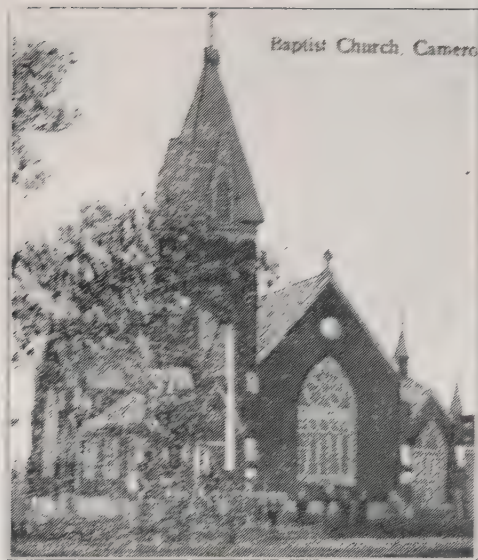
Bird's-eye View of William Jewell College—Founded 1849



Baptist Church at Nashua



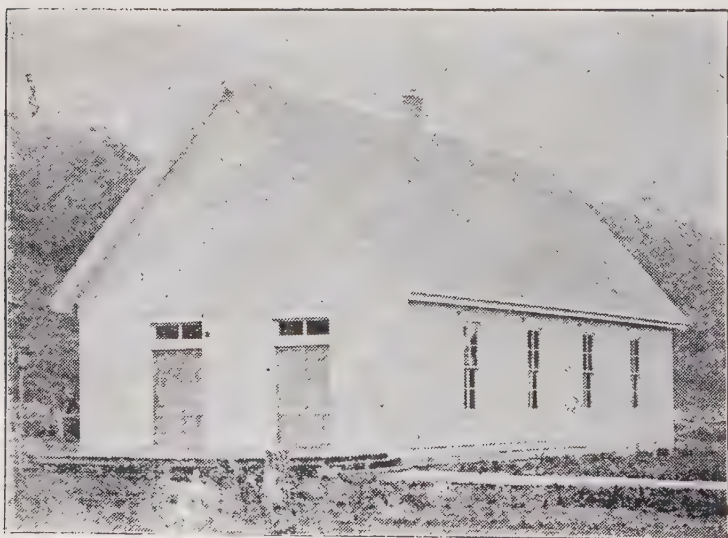
Baptist Church at Trimble



First Baptist Church at Cameron



Liberty Ladies College—Founded 1890—Burned 1913



The Baptist Church at Smithville



Baptist Church at Stewartville



Little Platte Baptist Church



The Baptist Church at Lathrop



Osborn Baptist Church



The Weston Baptist Church



First Baptist Church at Excelsior Springs



The Plattsburg Baptist Church

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Puckett, G

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AUTHOR

Historical sketch of the North

TITLE Liberty Baptist Association,
1844-1918.

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